

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)
THE DUCHESS OF POWYSLAND.
 BY
GRANT ALLEN.

CHAPTER XVII.**COUNCIL OF WAR.**

A year passed away, with all its trivial events, and much water had run under the bridge before any other great change occurred in the Hurst Croft household. But about twelve months afterwards, one bright summer afternoon, Arthur Roper, Esquire, in his most gentlemanly tweed suit, sat taking his ease, cigarette in mouth in a private room of a highly respectable London hotel, while opposite him, in a padded chair, with his domineering hat stuck far back on her head, and her eminently proper little brown veil tossed carelessly aside on the table, Miss Venables maid lolled loosely about in a most unconcerned attitude, and bandied repartees of a very doubtful sort with the head of the profession.

An hour or two before Miss Venables' maid, an amateur young person, notable even among her own class for the exquisite precision of the coifs and plaites of her black hair, had stood respectfully, erect in Miss Venables' presence, and, dropping her sweet, low, voice to a deferential key, had asked quietly, on the very best grounds, for the exceptional favour of an afternoon's holiday. "I had a letter this morning from my aunt in London, ma'am," the irreproachable young person remarked, with the suavity of her kind; "and she says my poor mother was taken worse again last night with a fresh attack—worse than she's been at all since she was first paralysed, in fact; and I thought, if it wouldn't inconvenience you, and you could manage to spare me, I should like so much to run up for a few hours to-day to go home to see her, getting back in good time to do our hair for dinner."

"Very well, Williams," Sabine Venables answered, in perfect innocence, "and if there's anything you'd like the cook to get ready for her, you know—beef-tea, or jelly, or anything of that sort—you can ask her, if you wish, to make some for you to take with you."

The irreproachable Williams drew herself up with mingled gratitude and dignity. "Thank you, Miss," she said, "but my mother has everything she can require at home, of any sort, thanks. My brothers and I take care she wants for nothing that can make her more comfortable. We get her port wine and everything she can need. But we thank you all the same, miss, and I'm much obliged for the leave. I wouldn't have asked you at all, if it weren't that there's a train down from Victoria that'll bring me back in very good time to do your hair; and I couldn't bear to think my dear mother should feel I was any ways neglectful of her."

But as she lolled there now in her padded chair, the very picture of carelessness and abandonment, with her hat and her respectability pushed aside together, the closest observer would hardly have taken her for the same demure person who, a few hours earlier, had stood so straight and looked so deferential, with the stereotyped air of the superior upper servant, in Sabine Venables' dressing-room at Hurst Croft, near Leatherhead.

"So you think it'll come off on Monday night, then, Bess?" Mr. Arthur Roper inquired, with profound interest, holding his cigarette in his hand, and, blowing out the smoke with penitive attention.

"Oh, dear, yes. Monday night for certain," Miss Pomeroy responded, for it was indeed she. "And the thing'll be as easy as lying, or even easier."

"You're a good one at a plan, and no mistake," Mr. Roper went on, eyeing close the sketch Miss Pomeroy had drawn up for him on a sheet of paper. "Dressing-table there: jewel case here; upon my word, Bess, one would think to look at it, you'd be entitled to an architect."

Miss Pomeroy smiled a pleased smile. Praise is always dear to the female heart. "Well, it is a good ground-plan," she admitted, with modest pride. "I took some pains over it, especially as to the windows."

"The windows are devilish handy—there's no doubt about that," Mr. Roper observed, musing, still gazing at the sketch. "I had a good look at them all round on Tuesday. I like these new-fashioned Queen Anne houses for that. Progress—progress—the aesthetic revival! They're built with some regard for the convenience of the profession. Always some nice little picture-que ledges and projecting out-buildings to help a man up by, and always some pretty little leaded panes of coloured glass in the bed-room casements you can cut through with your knife as soon as look at 'em. None of that confounded bother about jemmies and centre-bits, which are always compromising; no grinding through plate-glass with a glazier's diamond, and having the loose bits tumble in on the floor to rouse the household. Queen Anne's the lady. Why, there's many a fine old bare and spare country mansion I know of—worst style of art—Elizabethan and so forth—where a man might go prepared with rope ladders, and such keys, and sectional crowns, and all the latest scientific implements and accoutrements of the trade, and he couldn't get inside, not if he were to waste the whole blessed night over it. I hate such bad style!" There's no doubt in the world at all about it; we've made immense advances of late in England in the art of architecture."

Miss Pomeroy laughed—a laugh that was easy and free and bon air. "Well, you'll have no difficulty on Monday, anyhow," she said, with a good-humoured nod. "If it comes to that, the Cassowary's so careless of her jewellery (we call her the Cassowary for her stately head) I could walk off with it any day myself without the slightest trouble, if it weren't for my character. But, of course, my character ain't to be trifled with that way. It's a great deal better, for form's sake, that there should be a regular burglary, and everything should be done in the correct style—window cut through, door locked inside, tools left lying about in a heap on the dressing-room floor, all the open evidence of a forcible entry. That's the sort of thing that takes with the public. No suspicion thrown upon anybody inside. A regular, downright, desperate cut-throat burglary."

Mr. Roper looked up with an ap-

prehesive smile. "Bess," he murmured half aloud, "you're a jewel, you are. You're always the same. I do admire you."

Miss Pomeroy rose and dropped a small mock curtsey. "I'm glad to have obtained your approbation, sir," she said saucily, "and shall endeavour by a strict attention to business to merit in future a continuance of the same."

"Well, upon my word," Mr. Roper added, smiling. "I hardly know how I'd ever get along at all without you."

"You'd do a great deal better if you'd give up all the others, and make an honest woman of me, and settle down quietly in a respectable way of life as a first-class operator," Miss Pomeroy said regretfully. "We're throwing away our talents, that's just what we're doing. We could make much more and be a deal more comfortable if we took up with circulars or something like that—Mr. Gordon Bayley's line of business for example."

The head of the profession eyed his boots thoughtfully. "The fact of it is, Bess," he answered after a long pause, "I can't give up all the others. It goes against my religious convictions, don't you see? You must take a man's religion into count. I'm a Jew by descent, a Christian by education, and a Mahomedan by predilection—so I can't help myself. I've got to go on. No man can be blamed for his religious convictions."

"Indeed, I'm sure, sir, it's very difficult," Miss Pomeroy chimed in, in her favourite character at the Perfect Treasure. "If I've earned your approbation, it's by my humble efforts to please, I'm more than satisfied."

"My one aim in life is to give satisfaction to my Ke-yind employers. For securing valuable when the right moment arrives, there's nothing on earth like an unblemished character."

"How's the lights in the house?"

Mr. Roper inquired, with a flash, suddenly recalled from admiration to serious business. He prided himself on being the inventor of the modern early or full gas lamp system of com-

"There'll be nobody about," Mr. Roper said, once more inspecting the architectural plan.

"Oh, dear no, there'll be nobody about. I can answer for that. They'll all be hanging around loose in Dear Woodbine's part of the house you may be certain." And Miss Pomeroy gave the words, "Dear Woodbine" in Old Affability's own precise manner, for like all her kind she was a capital mimic. "Dear Woodbine's rooms are away over in the opposite wing. The Cassowary took care of that, you may be sure; she wasn't going to be put too near her mamma-in-law. Old Affability'll be there, too; he'll be hanging about in the Blue Room, rubbing his hands nervously, and talking about Dear Woodbine's intellectual grandeur. He's a gentleman of a great deal of soul, when you get to know him," is Old Affability. He talks this way."

Miss Pomeroy went off at a tangent into a delicious caricature of the typical British Philistine's intellectual conversation, when he passed from the consideration of Portuguese Threes and warmed up into flights of wooden eloquence on the subject of the highest achievements of society.

The head of the profession, tilting his chair and laughing, regarded her with eyes of unmixed approval. "Well, you are a rare one, Bess," he cried, delighted. "I never did meet anybody so good at rapid change of front as you are. When you go into a private house to pull your inquiries into the number and disposition of the family jewels, you're perfectly itself. You look as if butter wouldn't melt in your mouth. I'm sure when I saw you on Tuesday in the garden at Hurst Croft, walking like Priscilla the Puritan maiden behind the stately Cassowary, and passing me by without so much as a glimmer of recognition in your eye, I said to myself, 'That girl's a treasure!'"

"Is it safe, do you think?" Mr. Roper inquired, with a dubious expression.

"Anything's safe, I should think, with such a dunder-headed lot of blithering idiots as the Hurst Croft servants. You might walk in the window before their very eyes, and if you said good evening, sir, they'd be perfectly satisfied. You might tell them you were the Queen's Taxes called to inspect the gas-meter, and they'd think it was all right. They'd show you up at once to the dynamo for the Ambergate motor."

"Well, Williams," she said, in a deadly cold voice, as her maid entered. Miss Pomeroy's face was all polite respect, very kind of you, Miss," she said, demurely. "But I couldn't sleep, thank you. I'd rather sit up, if you don't mind, till we know what happens."

Which was perfectly true, in more senses than the one Miss Pomeroy herself intended it to be taken in.

And she glided away, as noiseless as ever, with that inimitably respectful and respectable air floating like an invisible cloak around her.

Sabine was pale and very weary, looking. "No thank you, Williams," she answered, looking up. "But don't let me keep you. There's no need for you to wait. You can go to bed if you like now."

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The head of the profession raised his voice, and the room was silent.

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"A boy or a girl?" Sabine asked, with a chill.

"I'm always acknowledged to be a Perfect Treasure, as long as I stop," Miss Pomeroy put in, parenthetically, with a graceful smile. "I've often heard 'em say so, when I wasn't listening."

"That's just it," her admirer went on, confidently. "You make 'em believe you're a regular model of all that's praiseworthy. I'd make up my mind to you, if anybody happens to meet you and ask any questions, just pull your mug and say you're Miss Williams's brother, come down for the night, and Miss Williams has sent you to Miss Venables' room for Miss Venables' smelling-bottle."

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OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

It is pleasant to find English artists engaged by the managers of foreign opera companies, and I am glad to announce that Mr. Alec Marsh, a young English baritone, who recently undertook the rôle of Telemundo at very short notice, and thus prevented a change of opera at Covent Garden, has been engaged by Mr. Sheriff Harris for his next Royal Italian Opera season.

A little bird has whispered to me that the next series of Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden will be under the sole management of Mr. Sheriff Harris. I am glad to be able to say that Mr. Freeman Thomas is gradually regaining health and strength, but he will have henceforth to refrain from undertakings involving severe exertion of mind and body. The work he performed during his nine years' successful management of the Covent Garden Promenade Concerts might have proved too fatiguing for a giant.

Mr. Alfred Gilbert has invited me to witness the first performance, at his residence on Monday next, of a new opera, entitled "Unwitted." He is an accomplished musician, and has written both the music and the libretto of this opera.

The Philharmonic Society has steadily advanced in prosperity during the last ten years, and the obliging hon. sec., Mr. Francesco Berger, informs me that no call will be made on the guarantors of the past season, which has been in all respects successful. To the best of my recollection, no call has been made on the guarantors during the last six years. Underbad management, during the fifteen or sixteen years ending in 1879, a reserve fund of £5,000 was reduced to £100.

The directors elected for the next Philharmonic season are Messrs. Francesco Berger (hon. sec.), W. H. Cummings, Charles Gardner, Otto Goldschmidt, Franklin Taylor, John Thomas, and C. E. Stephens (hon. treasurer). By the excellent rules of the Philharmonic Society three directors must retire every year.

Mr. Horace Sedger informs me that he has taken the Vaudeville Theatre for three months from the beginning of September, and has engaged Miss Minnie Palmer as one of his leading attractions. I suppose she will bring some songs from America. Mr. Sedger also tells me that the new opera, written for him by Mr. W. S. Gilbert and composed by Mr. Alfred Cellier, is almost completed, and the first act ready for rehearsal. When "L'Enfant Prodigue" ceases to draw large audiences it will be followed by the Gilbert-Cellier opera.

At the Lyric Theatre, an opera entitled "The Wedding Eve" will be produced when "Le Cigale" ceases to draw large audiences, which does not appear likely to happen soon. The 300th performance of this lively opera will take place on August 2nd, and I should not be surprised were it to run beyond Christmas next.

Miss Damiani has returned from Italy, where she has had great success in opera. Her fine contralto voice will be heard in the quartett of Beethoven's choral symphony No. 9, which will be one of the attractions at the ninth (and last) Richter Concert of the current season. I am glad to know that Mr. Vert's judicious introduction of an increased number of vocal pieces at these concerts has been rewarded by increased success.

Amongst the attractions provided by MM. Vert and Richter for Monday next will be found Mr. C. V. Stanford's ballad, for chorus and orchestra, "The Battle of the Baltic." Should any of my readers be unacquainted with this spirited and altogether excellent work, I recommend them not to lose this opportunity of hearing it performed by the Boston orchestra and chorus.

Mr. George Fox's new opera, "Nydia," will be produced at the Crystal Palace Theatre on the 20th inst. Mr. Ludwig and Madame Hausemeister will represent two of the principal characters.

OLLA PODRIDA.—The German Reed Company have begun their customary summer holiday.—The professors of the London Organ School and College of Music (tolerably lengthy title) will give a recital next Wednesday evening.—The bands of the 1st Prussian Dragoon Guards, the Prussian "Zieten" Hussars, and the 105th Royal Saxon Infantry will play every afternoon and evening next week at the German Exhibition.—The Chester Triennial Musical Festival will commence next Wednesday morning with Mendelssohn's "St. Paul."—The Operatic class of the Royal Academy of Music will perform next Monday at 7.30 p.m.—The next orchestra concert of the R.A. Mus. students will take place at St. James's Hall, Tuesday, July 23rd.—The great pianist, Rubinstein, has resigned his post as director of the St. Petersburg Conservatoire of Music.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

A correspondent writes from Weybridge, Surrey:—Your readers are always, I know, interested in the asperity of animals, and I, therefore, send you an account of an adventure of my fox terrier "Grit" is only eight months' old and has quite recently come to reside in this locality. About a fortnight ago I took him on the Thames with another dog, and our party rowed up to Chertsey Bridge. Here the two dogs went on shore on a water rat expedition. Shortly afterwards we rowed back to Shepperton Lock when the puppy was found to be missing. I valued him so much that I went back along the bank all the way to Chertsey, but he was nowhere to be found. Giving the search up we walked home, leaving word of our loss to the lock-keeper, who promised to look out for him. We got home by about nine o'clock, and a little after ten we heard a whining at the front door. On opening it we found poor "Grit" wet to the skin, but delighted to be among us again. From the position of my house, and the place he was lost, he must have swum across both the Thames and the Wey, finding his way home, although he had never been on that part of the Thames before.

No matter where we are employed or how few our opportunities for observation are, we can study natural history to some extent. This is well exemplified by the following observations of "Gibert White, junior," made in Marylebone. Some of my readers have asked me about white cockroaches, which are simply cockroaches that have lately cast their skin. My correspondent gives further information. About mid-day he found a curious pinky-white cockroach which seemed somewhat lethargic. It was of boiled shrimp colour, and its eyes were bright and bead-like. It was securely bottled and at about seven o'clock in the evening had changed to a dirty cream, while a darker colour had spread in a line downward from each eye. The next morning the entire head and shield had become black brown and the dark hue had commenced spreading over the upper surface of the abdomen. The wings, however, were a transparent gold colour, and the under surface of the insect light. The legs were dark. At about seven in the evening my correspondent

observed again and found the colouring completed. The change thus seems to take about thirty-six hours.

London naturalists, indeed, have some decided advantages over their brethren in the country. The magnificent natural history museum at South Kensington is a most invaluable assistance to our favorite study. The series of British birds in their natural haunts, of course, no now commonest, Entomological, and similar, provided by the Walhampton collection. Beginners in every branch should consult the specimens in the museum, and the hall where the structure of different animals are shown. The recently added Huso collection of Asiatic heads and horns of deer, sheep, antelopes, goats, and wild cattle, interesting to the sportsman as well as the man of science. The museum is undoubtedly far-and-away the best in the world; it is not a mere collection of specimens but a vast book in which the specimens are the illustrations.

The recent pigeon race from Richmond Castle (Yorkshire) to Waltham Abbey, in Essex was an interesting event. Thirty-nine birds were liberated, and the winner flew 200 miles to his home in 4hr. 25min., giving a velocity of 1,284 yards per minute, a very high rate of speed for such a distance. The next bird which belonged to the same owner, attained a speed of 1,290 yards. Only two birds did not reach their homes on the same day. The bird winning this race did not, however, gain the silver cup of victory which depended on the best average velocity in this and two previous long-distance contests, and was won by the owner of the third pigeon.

Mr. S. Sterne says that about twelve years ago a pair of tortoises were turned loose in his garden, and shortly afterwards died. About five years after that the same happened with another pair. About five years ago another was introduced, disappeared for six months, and died shortly after its re-appearance. The other day the gardener, when at work, came across a very small one. I do not think it can be a descendant of the other tortoises. The last of them died four-and-a-half years ago. Allowing six months for the hatching of an egg which it might have laid, this little tortoise would be at least four years old. It would probably, therefore, be larger than it apparently is, as it descended from the other tortoises. I expect that it has strayed in from some other garden.

What an incorrigible miscreant the wild cat of London is. The other day, I intercepted one in the act of entering a room where a wretched little sparrow was. The bird was a foundling fallen from its nest on whom we had had compassion. I chased the sparrow to a safer position. But that cat or another had her revenge. In my garden I have a small shallow pond which serves both as bird-bath and fish-tank. There are four goldfish and two small carp therein. The cat actually pulled one of the goldfish out with her paw and made off with it. I had chased her away from the pond only just before. I have baited her now by putting a piece of wire-netting over the water.

With regard to my note concerning advertisements, &c., on wild animals, "The British Lion" writes that, in his opinion, albatrosses would make good advertisers. He says that sailors often catch them, tie the ship's name, position, and the date round the leg or neck, and then release them. The "booby" of Ascension would also be useful, for it can be easily caught, and you could paste your own advertisements on him over your rivals. "The British Lion" mentions that he remembers two salmon being caught on the N.E. coast of Scotland which had had broad rubber rings on their tails bearing the Duke of Athol's crest and a date.

THE ACTOR.

The new American Copyright Law is likely to have a considerable effect upon the literary quality of our English plays. Hitherto, certain of our dramatists have refused to publish their works, because, by so doing, they rendered it easy for the American pirates to produce them without the payment of fees. Now, though an English play be published, the Yankee managers will still not be able to perform it without the consent of the author. The immediate result of this has been the announcement that both Mr. Pinero and Mr. H. A. Jones will publish a series of their works.

These works will be awaited with curiosity. How far will they compare with their predecessors in print? I do not, myself, ask of a play that it shall be literary. I ask of it only that it shall be dramatic. And it cannot be truly dramatic, unless the dialogue be true to life, within the necessary limits of stage requirements. Still, it is well that plays should be printed, because the authors are thus enabled, if necessary, to appeal from the playing to the reading public, by whom the verdict of the former may be reversed.

Friend Brougham, who has been recruiting at Yarmouth, informs me that he met with not a few Thame anglers on the famous Broads, where they had bagged some exceptionally fine bream. Several perch of 2lb. to 3lb. each have been taken at Tritton Decoy.

A capital sketch of that patriarchal angler, Mr. Watling, son, appeared in *Graphic* of Wednesday last, and in the opinion of "Old Izak," he honestly deserves the honour thus conferred upon him.

I am daily expecting to hear that Mr. John Kelly, of the Silver Trout, is on the war-path again, and if so, that some of the monster carp he is familiar with have succumbed to his alluring bait; an esculent root, not daubed by beings of a much higher order of intelligence—a new potato.

The production of a play in which Molière was the leading character, reminds me that there appears to be a growing tendency to take historical personages for the heroes or heroines of drama. Quite lately in America they have made Beau Brummell (not for the first time) the central figure of a comedy, and, still more recently, the young English playwrights sought to put upon the stage not only Richard Savage but Sir Richard Steele, Jacob Tonson, and other notabilities. The result is not to be done lightly, for it is very rarely that the reproduction of a historical character satisfies the expert and the critical.

That reminds me that we are to have more history on the stage in the case of "The Royal Divorce," a play by Mr. W. G. Wills, in which Miss Grace Hawthorne has been "starring" in the provinces, and in which she proposes to appear in London shortly. She is to impersonate the Empress Josephine, another lady will be the Princess Marie-Louise, and Napoleon will also figure in the cast. Now, if Mr. Augustus Harris would have he should make an admirable Napoleon, but who else could reconcile us to the great little warrior on the boards? However, perhaps Miss Hawthorne has secured the man for the rôle.

I hope Miss Minnie Palmer's season at the Vaudeville will be a success, but I doubt whether there is now much vitality (so far as I am concerned) in either "My Sweet Heart" or "My Brother's Sister." So long as these variety pieces "pay," Miss Palmer is justified in producing them, but, for the sake of her artistic reputation, I am glad to note that she is going to make her appearance in comic opera. In that she will have every scope for the exhibition of her powers as singer and

dancer, as well as actress, while, at the same time, those powers will be seen in a suitable setting.

The piece in which she will appear is "Uncle Celestine," a Parisian success, performances of which have recently been attended by Miss Palmer with a view to picking up the original "business" of the heroine's part. Mr. Sedger tells me that he intends surrounding Miss Palmer with the thoroughly competent artists, so that a good ensemble may be secured. Possibly, if the piece is a "go" in the country, it may be brought up to London by and bye, and then we shall be able to judge of it, and of Miss Palmer's performance for ourselves.

The chief artistic feature of "The Prince and the Pauper," when it was produced at the Gailey, under Mr. Beringer's auspices, was the admirable acting of Mr. W. H. Vernon as the king. If Mr. Sedger, who is going to produce at the Vanderville a new version of Mark Twain's story, can secure Mr. Vernon for the King in that adaptation, he will, I think, do a judicious thing. Miss Jessie Hatton will play both the Prince and the Pauper, which is a better arrangement than that adopted at the Gailey, where the roles were divided between Miss Beringer and Master Field Fisher, to the detriment of the intelligibility of the plot.

OLD IZAK.

London anglers have rarely had a more enjoyable outing or, time and circumstances considered, better sport, than that afforded by the competition held last week in the Central Association fishery at Fulbrough. I am pleased to report that all passed off in the happiest manner possible, and the preservation fund will certainly benefit, thanks to the admirable arrangements made by Mr. Wade, and the committee by whom he was surrounded.

Of 125 anglers entering the lists, 55 weighed

up. "Old Izak" has to congratulate Mr. J. W. Biggs, secretary of the Funny Folks, on having carried off the first prize (the blue ribbon of the day) with a weight of 7lb. 12oz. Mr. W. Simpkins, of the Anchor and Hope, came second with 7lb. 5oz.; Mr. W. Stretch of the Islington Brothers, third, with 6lb. 13oz.; in each case good fish, and in excellent condition. Mr. Farmer, of the Blackfriars, was well to the front, and a fine ronch of 1lb. 10oz., another of 1lb. 5oz., with some capital perch and bream figured on the trays. The fish were on view for about an hour after the weighing in, and were then photographed by Mr. Slaughter. The association and prize winners will thus have a permanent memento of the competition.

Thanks to mine host of the Swan, a capital smoking concert, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, was given in the Corn Exchange on the evening prior to the contest. Mr. S. C. Harding, of the Pictorial Society, presiding. A collection was also made at the close of the competition on behalf of the Fulbrough children's excursion, and I am not surprised to learn that the contributions, taken together, considerably exceed the sum collected at the two Sunday services in a neighbouring church.

If any of my readers wish for a thoroughly enjoyable river trip, and its necessary sequel, "a sumptuous banquet afterwards, let them send half a guinea to Mr. W. H. Brougham, at 62, Charing Cross, to whom the bird was a foundling fallen from its nest on whom we had had compassion. I chased the sparrow to a safer position. But that cat or another had her revenge. In my garden I have a small shallow pond which serves both as bird-bath and fish-tank. There are four goldfish and two small carp therein. The cat actually pulled one of the goldfish out with her paw and made off with it. I had chased her away from the pond only just before. I have baited her now by putting a piece of wire-netting over the water.

With regard to my note concerning advertisements, &c., on wild animals, "The British Lion" writes that, in his opinion, albatrosses would make good advertisers. He says that sailors often catch them, tie the ship's name, position, and the date round the leg or neck, and then release them. The consequence was that on Monday morning, numbers of "regulars" were put to very grave inconvenience; had they only received warning, they would have made other arrangements for getting into town.

There are some people who would, if they could, stop all sorts of sport, from racing downwards. Here, for instance, is one of these godly creatures writing to a Newcastle paper in favour of taxing football! Why football more than cricket, or tennis, or golf, or any other athletic pastime, it does not state. The game chances to have incurred his pious aversion, and he therefore runs a tilt at it as a fitting source of national revenue. He would also tax cycling, while every race meeting would have to pay a heavy per centage of profits into the Treasury.

Sweet Christian! He would "make up for

him" by inculcating, by darning his eyes, that he has no mind to. I would not much care to be a member of his family; depend upon it, he rules them with a rod of iron.

so rapidly during the last decade as in previous decades. My own view is precisely the contrary; we have quite as many people as the country can provide with a living—rather more, in fact. Had the previous rate of growth been maintained, there would be nearly a million more British human beings competing against one another for the means of subsistence, with the inevitable result of lowering the wage rate. For my own part, I should not be at all sorry to see the population remain stationary like that of France, and I rather welcome it as a hopeful sign that we seem to be gravitating in that direction.

Parochial officials sometimes seem to forget that they are the ratepayers' servants. Vestry clerks are especially oblivious on that point; their weakness is to resent, as a personal grievance, any complaint about the state of the roads or what not. Their evident belief is that nothing can possibly go wrong under their control, and if you dare to hint the contrary, the poor soul spirits fly to arms, and either a sneering reply or no answer at all rewards the applicant for redress.

Lager beer continues, I am credibly informed, to gain ground in England—a sign that a good many of our beer-drinkers prefer a light, brisk, and pure beverage when they can get it. I must confess to sharing this preference during hot weather, when one craves a "long" drink which will not be muddle the brains. In winter, however, I do not much care for lager; it seems to do one no good; like the farmer's claret, it fails to get the consumer "any forager." It is true, I wonder, that lager, unlike ale, is free from gout-creating qualities? If that be the case, the more it replaces the latter the better for public health. Gout is the great enemy of this generation. I do not know a single family which is altogether free from the tyrant's visitations.

Are linen waistcoats cooler than cloth? They look so, owing to their lightness of hue, but I doubt whether there be much difference. It is the evil habit of laundresses to starch them to such an extent that no air can get through, whereas woollen materials are always more or less porous. The coolest waistcoat by far is one made of light flannel; even the most orthodox and conservative washerwoman would not dare to impregnate it with her abominable plating.

The London General Omnibus Company, is far too much of an autocrat to square with modern prescriptions. Although the manager may have known beforehand that when the twelve hours day system came into operation, he would have to knock off a good many conveyances, no notice was given to the public. The consequence was that on Monday morning, numbers of "regulars" were put to very grave inconvenience; had they only received warning, they would have made other arrangements for getting into town.

There are some people who would, if they could, stop all sorts of sport, from racing downwards. Here, for instance, is one of these godly creatures writing to a Newcastle paper in favour of taxing football! Why football more than cricket, or tennis, or golf, or any other athletic pastime, it does not state. The game chances to have incurred his pious aversion, and he therefore runs a tilt at it as a fitting source of national revenue. He would also tax cycling, while every race meeting would have to pay a heavy per centage of profits into the Treasury.

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MADAME.

Here is a last year's gown I saw very successfully treated with a view to its doing duty as a new frock for this season's seaside wear. The dress was a soft black collared with a plain skirt, tight-fitting bodice, and short basque quite untrammelled. To begin with the bodice, this basque was produced in imitation Spanish lace now so much worn, at once transforming the out-of-date garment into a stylish costume quite à la mode. A full poul of the same lace was arranged on the shoulders, and the wrists were finished with cuffs of narrower lace of the same pattern. The character of the skirt was altered by the introduction of two fully gathered flounces at the bottom of black lace, the same as the added basque.

But this by no means exhausted the thought and care expended upon the embellishment of the dress for its second season's campaign. A fully gathered ruffle of pale pink chiffon went round the high neck-band and was carried down the front of the bodice; this ruffle was removable, and two others were arranged to be substituted according to the colour of the trimming of the hat that might be worn on any occasion. One, a lovely shade of canary yellow, was embroidered at the head; the other had a pale blue ground covered with large spots of a darker blue. By the way, this spotted chiffon is now very fashionable, and the lovely soft colouring of lighting up a black dress with exceeding gracefulness.

The hat, made of the same sort of imitation Spanish lace as trimmed the dress, was a very becoming shape, slightly turned up at the back with a deep dute brim in front. The lace was arranged in full poufs all over the outside of the hat, the inside being lined with a straight piece gathered very full. For wearing with the pink ruffle a spray of baby roses to match the colour of the chiffon was pinned amongst the puffs of lace, where the hat turned up at the back. This was replaced with a bunch of yellow poppies mixed with black capri for the yellow ruffle, and for the blue a posy of cornflowers to match the two blues in the ruffle was worn.

Now to give you an example of quite a different style. I saw a lovely cambric gown worn by a pretty hostess at an afternoon reception on Wednesday. It was a cream white ground covered with tiny blue pincushions. The loose bodice was gathered at the neck and waist, and fastened invisibly up the front. The basque was pointed, and had a deep pouf of the cambric added to it. The pouf was cut out in vandyke points, and worked in button-hole stitch, with blue silk. The sleeves were made with a very large pouf on the shoulders, a smaller one below, and the rest of the sleeves very loose to the wrist, where they were finished with a plain band ornamented with a blue ribbon bow. The skirt gathered all round was slightly trained. It had four deep poufs of the cambric vandyked and worked in blue to match the basque. A posy of blue pincushions was worn at the left side of the bodice with charming effect.

A lovely mouseline delaine gown worn by one of the guests, a recent bride, greatly struck me. The ground was white with a gathering pattern of pink dog roses, three fully-blown roses ornamenting the bottom of the skirt, which rested some inches on the ground behind. The bodice, fitting tight at the back, was arranged in front with full folds crossing each other. The basque was a gathered ruff of the delaine, the pinnings on the sleeves had little bows of pink ribbon mingling with them, and

JACK ALLROUND.

There are various methods resorted to for waterproofing boots, and I have known some of the home made waterproofings keep out the wet quite as well—better—in some cases than boots ready prepared for the purpose by the manufacturers. In reply to J. B. "Thomas S." and "Bog Trotter," I give three recipes highly recommended to me, and which I hope may be useful to many readers. Take two parts of tallow to one part of resin, and mix them together in a pincin on the fire; thoroughly warm the boots, and apply the melted mixture with a painter's brush until the leather will absorb no more. If your boots are well polished before you apply this mixture you will find them ready to take the polish afterwards when the stuff has dried in sufficiently.

Another waterproofing for boots and shoes of a more delicate description, which will probably suit "Thomas S." best is to apply to the soles as much copal varnish as they will soak in and treat the uppers in the same way with castor oil, which will not prevent their taking blacking afterwards. A third recipe, which takes a little time, but by some is considered the best of all, is done by purchasing some of Macintosh's indiarubber waterproofing. Work carefully and gradually two gills of raw linseed oil into one gill of the Macintosh solution, till you get the solution thoroughly dissolved in the oil. Paint the boots carefully over with this mixture and let them lie by for seven or eight hours and paint again, and so continue even for as many as a dozen coats if the leather will absorb or take it in always leaving seven or eight hours between each coat. You will find boots prepared in this way will polish splendidly.

"Betty Jane S." writes: "Kindly inform me how to crystallise fruits such as cherries, plums, &c., and "Enterprising Dora" says, "I have succeeded so well with your recipes that I shall be grateful if you will tell me how to crystallise some of the many sorts of fruit we have in the garden so that I can keep them in boxes like the dried crystal fruits for winter. Must they be boiled first?" The fruits of whatever sort you wish to crystallise must be preserved first in the ordinary way. You will require to have a tin box, it may be either square or round, but must be smaller at the bottom than at the top, widening up by degrees. It must be provided with a hole, through which a pipe or tube fitted with a cork will allow of drawing off the syrup at the proper time. It must also be provided with wire gratings made to fit one over the other at some distance that the gratings will not interfere with the fruit lying on the gratings underneath each.

Having provided yourself with the box as above, take any preserved fruit, drain it in the syrup it has been lying in, and dip it in lukewarm water to take off any syrup that may still cling to it. Now put the fruit so prepared to dry in the stove, and when dry, place them one by one in layers on the gratings, side by side, but not touching each other, and so continue with any one sort or many sorts of fruit till all the gratings in the box are filled, then fix the whole with a weight to keep it steady. You must boil the sufficient crystallised sugar to fill the box to the degree of "blow," that is, having set the sugar to boil on a clear fire, after a short time dip your fingers and put it to your thumb, if on separating the finger and thumb a small string of sugar, like a thread, adheres to each and does not break before the thumb and finger are fully expanded the sugar will be boiled to "large pearl." Now boil the sugar for five minutes longer, let the skimmer be in it; then, shaking the skimmer out of the boiling sugar, blow it, and if the sugar does off in small bubbles or air bladders it is boiled to the degree called "blow," and fit for crystallising.

But you must proceed with caution. If the boiled sugar be exposed too suddenly to cold, or disturbed in its action by being shaken, or if the boiling has continued too long, the crystals will run together and form a mass. To obtain crystals in perfection the boiling must be gradual, and continued only till a few drops let fall on a cold surface show a crystalline appearance. When it has reached the degree of "blow," as above, a few drops of spirits of wine should be added, and the whole removed from the fire. When a thin skin has formed on the top remove carefully with the skimmer, and pour the sugar into the box where you have packed the fruit on gratings. Place the box in the stove at 90deg. Fahr., and let it remain for twelve hours, then drain off the syrup into a pan from the tube at the bottom, and let the box remain in the stove until the fruit is quite dry, then turn out by striking the box hard upon the table and separate your crystallised fruit carefully, and put them in boxes with a piece of white paper between each layer of fruit.

I am greatly obliged to "Ellie P." who writes: "Having seen several inquiries about getting rid of ants from the pantries and the lower rooms of houses, I think your readers may be glad to know how I have succeeded in totally removing them from the pantry, store closet, and other rooms in my house. I got three old and very coarse sponges and washed them clean, then dipped them in clean cold water and squeezed them out and dusted them well with sifted sugar, which I put into the large honeycomb openings of the sponge, as well as all over them. I then laid those sponges in the pantry and store closet, and in a very short time I returned and found them literally swarming with ants. I threw the three sponges into a pail of boiling water, and as soon as that was cool enough well rinsed them out to get rid of the bodies of the ants, and again rinsed them in clean cold water. I charged them with the sugar and replaced the traps, and so continued twice every day until I got rid of all these most troublesome sorts of vermin. It was a French lady who gave me the recipe. She told me pieces of flannel or woolen rags would answer as well as a sponge, but I only used the sponges."

Three correspondents request directions for making currant wine. The currants should be quite ripe, and gathered on a fine day. Pick the fruit from the stalks and squeeze out the juice through a strong, clean muslin bag. To every gallon of juice allow two gallons of cold water and two tablespoonfuls of yeast. Let these work together for two days, then strain through a hair sieve, and to every gallon of liquor add three pounds of crushed lump sugar, stir till the sugar is thoroughly dissolved, then put into a clean cask, adding one wineglass of brandy to every gallon of liquor. Close up the cask for three months, then bottle.

Every one likes their own recipes best, and I am always happy to receive the opinions of my friends who are kind enough to take the trouble to give, on behalf of my readers, what they consider an improvement upon any of my recipes; that is when those friends trust me sufficiently to authenticate their communication with their name and address, for, of course, anonymous communications—of which I receive many—whatever may be their intrinsic value, deserve but scant consideration. "New Mexico," whose name and address, according to my invariable rule, I reserve, most kindly writes: "Having seen numerous inquiries in your columns for an easy method of tanning skins, and noted the replies given, I venture to send you a

recipe which is vastly superior and far more simple in every way to any given, and used for the last three years by myself with the greatest success on skins of various sizes, from grisly bear to squirrel. I have been hunting big and small game, and am pleased to help brother sportsmen."

The recipe is as follows:—If the skin is dry, soak in cold water until perfectly green, i.e., very soft; then flesh or escape of all grease, meat, &c., then wash in tepid soap-suds until the fur is quite clean, and wring dry—soot—out it. To ten gallons of soft water add seven pounds common salt, stir until dissolved; add slowly and stir in two and a half pounds of commercial sulphuric acid, put in the skins and let them remain from four hours to four days according to size. Then rinse in soft cold water, wring out, and hang in shade to dry. When dry keep on pulling and handling until perfectly dry, rub any sharp edges or corners out with pumice stone, a little whitening rubbed in with the pumice stone improves the appearance of the leather; comb out the hair and the hide is finished. With this treatment and care being taken to pull all the hide until quite dry a small skin will come out as soft as cheese. To test the tanning liquor it should taste hoarser than vinegar, but not burn the tongue. Should the operator have cut or chopped hands while handling liquor, it will do them good, and plucking them in cold water will relieve the smarting pain.

In reply to "E.H." and "Martha," who ask how to make colouring for sweets, for yellow colouring put a few pinches of the best saffron into a small glazed jar, pour a little boiling water over it and cover it closely up, then set it in a warm place for half an hour, turning it over two or three times in the water to extract the colour, then strain and bottle for use. Saffron is rather expensive. I dare say the eighth of an ounce would be enough for what you want. For blue sugar colouring put a fig of best indigo, put it into a small cup and a tablespoonful of water over it, let it stand for half an hour, pour off the water on the top, and you have a large supply of a fine smooth blue. For green some of the strong saffron colour mixed with the melted blue, using most yellow if you desire a pale green, or more blue for a dark green. "Oh, oh," and "withdraw." It was a quotation, but if offensive he would withdraw the expression.—The Rev. Fleming Williams hoped and believed that those who left the chamber on the last occasion would not do so again, because there were some Conservatives even who could rise above party feeling.—Mr. Boulton, M.P., defended the action of those who withdrew from the council on the last occasion, saying it was a weapon which the Legislature had put into his hands and he intended to use it. On the question being put, several of the members of the council left the chamber amidst the hissing and hooting of those who remained, as well as some of the occupants of the public gallery. The amendment was added to the resolution, and on a division the resolution as amended was carried by 88 votes to 3. The votes against the resolution were told by the tellers who were understood to be in its favour. Mr. Hopkins pointed out that only one vote was required to make the resolution valid, and ninety would be two-thirds of the 135 members of the council as at present constituted. He therefore asked the chairman to record his vote.—The chairman replied that if a casting vote had been required he would have given it in deference to the wish of the council, or if it had been noticed before he would have voted, but in this matter they should proceed with strict regularity.—After some further discussion Mr. Hopkins withdrew the remaining proposal, stating that he would give notice of another statutory special meeting.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

The annual review of the fire brigade, it was stated, would take place on Saturday in Victoria Park, and Lady Lubbock had undertaken to present the medals for extraordinary

bravery at fires and good service. The fire brigade committee, in recording Captain Shaw's retirement, said they had received

with regret his resignation of the post which he had held for the long period of thirty years, with conspicuous success, and with great advantage to the safety of life and property in the metropolis. It was agreed to have a special meeting of the council on Friday afternoon.—The council then adjourned.

HARD SWEARING.

In addressing the grand jury at the Durham Summer Assizes, Mr. Justice Day observed that, referring both to the period when he was a member of the Bar and to the time during which he had sat on the Bench, he might say that "the longer his experience in the administration of the law, the more disinterested had he been by the amount of perjury committed before him—and committed with practical immunity."

"He was afraid," he added, "that the influence of religion had little weight in deterring from perjury, and that the terror of the law was not sufficiently brought to bear on those who committed it."

THE ABDUCTION IN PERSIA.

Mrs. GREENFIELD STILL A PRISONER.

A Teheran correspondent telegraphs:—The

British Legation, in view of the fact that the Turkish Consulate at So-u-Bulak is still

occupied and surrounded by armed Kurds, has not accepted the proposal of the Turkish Ambassador that the English girl who is kept a prisoner in the Consulate should be released.

Mr. Treleaven, a shipowner.—Mr. Treleaven

employed a large number of men in unloading

ships at Plymouth, and Curran and others

went to him and said that if he did not

discontinue employing non-unions, all the men in his employ belonging to unions

should be called out. Mr. Treleaven refused

to dismiss the non-unions, and Curran

called out the union men, who responded to

the call and stopped work, although they

were under contract to unload ships. Curran

and two others were convicted of intimidation, fined, and ordered to pay costs by the

recorder.—In this decision the Lord Chief Justice said the court were unable to agree with the learned recorder. He had found that Curran and the other defendants did not desire or intend that any personal violence should be used, or injury done to Mr. Treleaven or his property. It was not proved that their words or acts were likely to cause any such violence or injury, although Mr. Treleaven was not unreasonably afraid that such violence or injury might accrue in consequence of the strike against the wishes and intentions of all the defendants. In overruling the judgment of the recorder the court did not propose to give an exhaustive enumeration of all possible acts which did and those which did not constitute intimidation. To say to the men when the employer would not give way, "Leave your work; use no violence; use no violent language, but quietly cease work, and go home," was certainly not intimidation within any reasonable interpretation of the statute. There was much to be said in favour of the view entertained by Mr. Justice Cave, and acted upon by him, as mentioned by the recorder, in his judgment, in a case tried before him at Liverpool under 33 and 39 Vic. cap. 86, that intimidation must still be limited to acts or threats of personal violence. It might become necessary to decide these points in time to come, but it was not necessary now; and their lordships confined themselves to the negative statement that in their opinion the actions in this case did not amount to intimidation. The recorder held that though a strike to benefit the men themselves was a strike which would have the effect of injuring an employer was illegal, and he cited in support of this view the judgment in the Mogul Steamship Company v. M'Gregor. The recorder had somewhat misapprehended the effect of this judgment if the injury was the motive and not the effect of an action which was for malicious conspiracy; but where the object was not malicious, the mere fact of the effect being injurious did not make the conduct either illegal or actionable. The recorder here found there was no malice, and this finding was inconsistent with the conclusion that the combination was either criminal or intimidative. The judgment of the recorder would be reversed, and the conviction quashed.—Conviction quashed accordingly.

THE SALVATIONIST DISTURBANCES AT EASTBOURNE.

The Eastbourne justices have again been

occupied with charges arising out of the disturbances caused by the Salvation Army processions, and the efforts of certain people to prevent them. Two brothers named Moortons, and a man named Biggs, were alleged by the police to have taken a prominent part in the disturbances, and this evidence being confirmed by members of the Salvation Army called by the police, the chief constable appealed to the magistrates to send the prisoners for trial. In the result one of the brothers Moortons was bound over to keep the peace, the case against the other man being dismissed. On Monday night Miss Edith Maynard and other Salvationists were arrested on warrants in default of paying fines, and conveyed to Lewes prison to serve sentences of a month's imprisonment. Sympathising crowds cheered them.

MRS. MAYBRICK.

At the Monmouth Assizes, William King,

27, labourer, was sentenced to eighteen

months' hard labour for procuring Jessie

Nichols for an unlawful purpose on the 24th of February last. The prisoner represented

himself to be a single man, and upon this representation the girl lived with him for a

month at Cardiff, where she was discovered

and rescued by her friends.

KRAZIE'S POWERS.—Kraze says that, "I am

not a quack, but a medical man, and I have

no secret, but I have a secret, and that secret

is that I have a secret, and that secret is

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THE THEATRES.

GRAND.

The initial performance of Italian opera at this theatre attracted a very fair audience on Monday last, and those who had the pleasure of witnessing Verdi's favourite opera, "Il Trovatore," were no doubt highly delighted with the performance. The attendance in some parts of the theatre was not larger than to be expected, for, if we except the recognised operatic stage, Verdi's opera has seldom been presented under such favourable circumstances as it was upon this occasion. The opera was excellently mounted, and the orchestra, comprising over thirty members, did full justice to the score under the direction of Signor Randegger. Madame Tavaray, in the rôle of Leonora, displayed considerable ability. Not only does she possess a melodious voice, but has an artistic style of acting. This latter capability was most marked, perhaps, in the scene outside the palace, and must have been apparent to many to whom Italian was unknown. The vigorous method in which Signor Ferriotti modelled his Manrico was regarded with high favour by the audience. His fine, clear voice being heard to full advantage throughout the performance. Admirable in all respects was the Conte de Luna of Signor Durifio, and Signor de Vaschetti was vocally perfect as Ferrando. Madama Guerica was the Azucena, and her acting and vocalism led to excellent results. Madama Florenza was the Inez, Signor Einaldi Ruiz, and Signor Biletti. Un Zingaro; while good results were also achieved by the chorus. Other operas performed throughout the week have been "Carmen," "Lucia," "Traviata," &c., and an equally select programme will be presented next week.

ROYAL STANDARD.

Visitors to Mr. Richard Wake's popular hall this week have had an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion on the efficacy of the sliding roof, and as the audiences have been large as well as select, this fact may be taken as a favourable sign that the patrons are of opinion that the management have good reasons for the atmospheric advantages they claim for their hall. And as the ventilation is perfect so also is the entertainment, for it is of a bright and exhilarating nature. Some interest attaches to the engagement of Mr. Arthur Lloyd, who has very successfully produced his comic musical sketch, "Her First Appearance." In this Mr. Lloyd's daughter, Miss A. King-Lloyd, makes her first appearance on the stage, and her rendering of the part of Mary MacNab is in every respect worthy of favourable comparison with the interpretation of the same part by the late Mrs. Lloyd (Miss Kitty King). Mr. Lloyd resumes his former character of the stage door keeper and is as droll as ever, receiving excellent support from Mr. D. Lloyd. The manufacturers until well together in rendering a "Swing" song of love, followed by a well-executed dance; Mr. J. W. Fyffe also sang, but devoted most of his time to singing Irish ditties of the type usually affected by Hibernian comedians; and the Brothers Marx introduce a novelty in the shape of a "statue," in which they perform marvellous feats of strength. Miss Nell Brown's voice is admirably adapted for the catchy music popular with music hall habitues, while the floral tribute she has disposed of brings her considerable popularity. Miss F. Bilton sings of the advantages to be gained by looking ahead; and among other items of entertainment will be found a musical and terpsichorean act by the Sisters Chester, Professor Matthews and his performing dogs and goats, and an amusing pantomimic sketch, entitled, "The Gentleman Scamp," enacted by the Le Fie Trio: while the musical selections played throughout the performance leave nothing to be desired.

The London season has almost reached low water mark, leaving most playgoing folk prospectively "Stranded"—in quite another than a theatrical sense—by the margin of summer seas, where, as health and pleasure seekers, they will for a holiday time at least, willingly forego the town illusions of art in their enjoyment of the scenic realities of nature. It is, therefore, in the eternal fitness of things that the dramatic chronicler should have least to say to his readers at the very time they are least disposed to listen to him. Whatever in the nature of news can be scraped together during this dearth and drought of stage production may be told in half a dozen sentences. From Australia comes the message that Sara Bernhardt's success among those of our countrymen and women who live farthest off from us is simply unprecedented in its triumph. The same cable happily brings confirmation of the success of the English play of "The Idler," written by the most able dramatist Greater Britain has yet sent to the mother-country, Mr. Haddon Chambers. In connection with this gentleman's play it is noteworthy that his fellow-colonists would not have at any price its author's first popular success in England, "Captain Swift," presumably because the chief character, being a bushranger, touched too nearly, to be personally pleasant to the antipodeans, upon the ticklish question of the ancestry of some of them. From another British possession, the North-west Dominion of Canada, a sad event is flashed along the wire—the death of Alfred Byron, son of the dramatist, H. J. Byron. The young fellow, who was engaged as a trooper in the mounted police, was found dead in his room, but whether by his own hand or that of an assassin is not known.

The statement, to which currency was given in a previous issue of the *People*, that Mr. H. A. Jones was to become a manager is now confirmed. The enterprising dramatist will, in October, open a West-end theatre, which, though not named, may, simply as a shrewd guess, be the Shaftesbury, whereat he will produce his latest and newest play, acted by a company of his own selection, directed by himself as stage-manager. Mr. Jones has evidently taken to heart and put in practice the motto of Damon: "L'audace l'audace, fortissimum l'audace!"—At the national fête of the Republic in Paris on Tuesday, the most novel feature was a ballet performed on the Seine. A row of barges, linked together and decked, constituted the space for both auditorium and stage, upon which, under a canvas canopy embellished with silken hangings, and illuminated by a myriad Venetian lamps, the spectators were entertained by the dancing of seventy-five ladies of the ballet. With reference to the cast of "Henry VIII." at the Lyceum, Mr. Irving has added in the person of the young actor, Mr. Acton Bird, a new member to his company. Stage aspirants should take note that the merit of the recruit lies in his eloquent gift in the delivery of blank verse.—Mr. Leonard Outram's production at the Avenue on Tuesday, for one night only, of his two acts tragedically nearing the ominous title of "A Mighty Error," is not of sufficient popular interest for more than a brief passing reference. Founded upon Browning's "In a Balcony" the gloomy piece retains all the faults of its origin, proving for the hundredth time that for stage production, poetic quality, however high, cannot compensate for weakness of plot in action. Neither does the presentation at the Vaudville on Wednesday evening of a one-act play entitled "The Sequel," written by Mr. L. N. Parker, call for lengthened comment, depending as the story does upon an

incident too morbid to be natural, and consequently outside the limits of human sympathy and interest. A sensitive young wife deserted by her husband "finds her affinity" in a young aristocrat with whom she retires to a lonely tropical island, which is visited at the end of a year by an old chum of the matinée, from whom the admission is extorted by the new comer that, despite his love for his dancing inseparables, he would rather die than continue to suffer the monotony of his present existence alone with her. This avowal, overheard by the lady while playing eavesdropper in conventional stage fashion, causes her to poison herself there and then, in order to give her lover the freedom for which he yearns. It seems a pity that after the long and regrettable absence of Miss Alma Murray from the stage, this cultured actress could not light upon a more sympathetic piece than one in which she plays, no doubt with much intelligence and accomplishment, a character whose self-sacrificial crown is supposed to be more worthily won by dying for her lover than by living for him. The psychology of such a story is unwholesome, leading to an extravagant result, far more indicative of a cracked brain than a broken heart—two things, by the way, which, though too often confounded of late by a petty set of deprecating playwrights, are, thank Heaven, thoroughly differentiated by the sound and wholesome sense of the playgoing public. Mr. P. Cunningham, as the lady's "protector," and Mr. Charles Fawcett, as his yachting friend, with Mr. H. Nelson and Miss Alice Bruce, otherwise supplied a cast too good for the work interpreted by them.

"Miss Decima" is the title chosen for the new comic opera in rehearsal at the Criterion, for presentation on the 23rd inst.—Mr. David Christie Murray has turned stage player. After acting lately in Australia in his own pieces, he proposed to repeat the experiment in London.—Mr. Bronson Howard's comedy "Cousin Kate" is to be tried before a London audience at a Strand matinée, with Miss Atherton in the part of a smart American girl. Simultaneously with the announcement of the publication of Mr. H. A. Jones's plays comes the statement of Mr. Pinero to adopt a similar course with regard to his own dramas. The revision of the latter's works will be undertaken by their author to Mr. Malcolm Salaman. Arrangements have been made by the proprietors and managers of the outlying theatres for the production of the following pieces next week: At the Britannia will be "The Crime of Paris," "Sadler's Wells," "Marybone," "Flashes," "Stratford," "Leaves of Shamrock," "Pavilion," "Men of Metal," and "Elephant and Castle," "Noble Love."

SAMPSON'S NEW PERFORMANCE.

There was a special display on Wednesday afternoon in the theatre of the Royal Aquarium by Sampson, whose singular feats of strength created great interest in London about two years ago. He has now returned with an entirely new programme. In order to show the strength of his lungs, he buckled a thick leather strap across his breast and burst it by the inflation of his lungs. Chains were snapped across his right arm with ease, and coins broken in half by the pressure of his fingers. With his left arm he raised a bar weighing 160lb., and he lifted a dumb-bell weighing 200lb. with his right arm from the floor high above his head. Then mounting a chair, he bent backwards and picked up the 200lb. dumb-bell, and raised it and himself to an upright position, though his arms visibly trembled with the strain. There were four men on the stage at the time who endeavoured, though in vain, to lift this dumb-bell. A bar weighing 320lb. was raised with ease. He broke a loose chain by a blow from his right fist, and, finally, carried a monster dumb-bell, weighing 1,022lb., across the stage, and placed it on a small iron carriage. He has challenged his old rival, Sandow, to enter into competition with him in this special test of strength.

THE ROUMANIAN ROMANCE.

There was a preface to the royal romance in Roumania, writes a Vienna correspondent, even more piquant than the details which have recently transpired. Some time ago it was suggested that Prince Ferdinand of Hohenzollern, the Roumanian heir-presumptive, should marry the daughter of a Protestant prince, his equal in rank. The question of endowment stood in the way. The prince's father has but a modest fortune, and Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern seemed to think that his son's marriage portion should be provided by the King of Roumania and not by himself. Meanwhile the Queen of Roumania had been advised by the Duke of Nassau to look for a spouse for Prince Ferdinand amongst the princesses related to the Russian imperial family. The lady whom his highness intended to have in view is not yet of an age to be disposed of in marriage, and Prince Ferdinand, who was doubtless already attached to Middle Vacaresco, either was not inclined to wait or did not approve of the choice. Not even the prospect of his being favoured by the Czar could in any way influence him. It was thought probable that the Czar would attend the wedding in Bucharest, that he would grant a handsome dowry, and that eventually Prince Ferdinand of Coburg would be given his share of the throne of Bulgaria united, under the Czar's auspices, with that of Roumania. The disinclination of Prince Ferdinand for this alliance was very probably encouraged by the king, who, for reasons which do not require pointing out, is not anxious to create fresh links between his court and that of St. Petersburg. He was, presumably, after this scheme collapsed, that the Queen made the cause of Middle Vacaresco her own. The report that the recognition of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria is under the consideration of the Powers is void of all truth. The question has been neither directly nor indirectly mooted. There is no new feature in the situation likely to promote its discussion; in fact, the whole rumour is nothing more than a full-fledged canard.

ALLEGED FRAUDS AT COLCHESTER.

The alleged frauds on the Commissariat Department at Colchester were further investigated on Thursday, when Staff-sergeant Alfrite, Army Service Corps, was tried by a district court-martial, charged with having falsely entered in his forage account books 56lb. of lucced as having been received from the contractor. After hearing evidence, however, the accused was acquitted.

The captain of the steamship Pickhuben, which has arrived at Montreal from Antwerp, reports that on the 4th inst. his vessel saved the burning wreck of the ship Octavia, outward bound from South Shields, with a cargo of coal. No sign of life on board was discernible, the crew having evidently taken to the boats.—Mr. Irving has added in the person of the young actor, Mr. Acton Bird, a new member to his company.

STAGE ASPIRANTS.

TOM LOATES' Grand Double Event—Liverpool Cup and Guards Cup—Awarded, on receipt of £2. 6d. Bankers' bill, London.

TOM ATHERSTON,

TURF TELEGRAPHIST.

WRIES THE DAY.

7, Wellington-street, London, E.C.

SYSTEM V. TOUTS.

HOORACE GRAY ON SYSTEMS should be Read by Every Turk, and does not require the assistance of Touts or Tiptoes. Profit last week on capital invested over 200 per cent. Post free, 7 stamps, to H. G., 172, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C.

FIRE IN THE EAST-END.

A fire broke out late on Wednesday night at 10, Derbyshire-street, Bethnal Green-road, E., upon the premises of Messrs. B. Child, cabinet-makers. The firemen were called by a passer-by, who saw flames bursting out from a large building of three floors, 32ft. long by 30ft. wide, and used as workshops. When the first engine arrived the lower part of the premises was well alight. Half a dozen engines were soon on the spot. The fire was making rapid progress among the inflammable material to hand, when a hydrant was got to work, and for a time it seemed certain that the entire cabinet-making factory would be destroyed. The entire premises were, however, more or less seriously damaged by fire, heat, smoke, and water.

PROPOSED METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.

WIDENING THE STRAND.

The Improvements Committee of the London County Council have prepared a report of metropolitan improvements which it is proposed to make, at an estimated cost of over £2,000,000 sterling. The chief suggestion is that of widening the Strand. The committee recommend the demolition of the island or block of buildings belonging to Holywell-street and the Strand, and dealing with the enclosed spaces. The estimated net cost would be £450,500, and they propose that the owners of the property on the north side of Holywell-street, which by the improvement would acquire frontages to the Strand, should be required to contribute, by way of an improvement rate, a sum which shall not exceed one-half of the increased annual value of their property. Application will therefore be made to Parliament for powers to remove the block of buildings on the south side of Holywell-street, and to deal with the enclosed spaces, together with the public conveniences adjoining the churches of St. Mary-le-Strand and St. Clement Danes. Between Holborn and the Strand, the committee recommend the formation of a new street 90ft. wide from the Holborn end of Little Queen-street, running straight in a southerly direction, passing between Freemasons' Tavern and the Sardinia-street Electric Lighting Station, intersecting Great Wind-street, Vere and Stanhope-streets, to the point where Drury-lane is intersected by White Hart-street and Blackmore-street, and then curving to the Strand, taking in the east corner of Catherine-street. The object of bending the street in this direction is to provide an easy gradient. The council is also recommended to apply in the next Session of Parliament for powers to widen Tottenham Court-road at Bonders-court, provision being made in the bill that the owners of the property, which by the removal of Bonders-court will become the west side of Tottenham Court-road, shall contribute to the cost of the improvement by means of an improvement rate. Nine Elm-lane, Battersea, is also to be widened, provided the vestries of Lambeth and Battersea agree to contribute a fourth of the net cost, and, subject to a contribution of £5,000 by the South London Tramways Company. Battersea Park-road, York-road, Battersea, and Wandsworth are among the other thoroughfares which it is deemed advisable to widen. An improvement is the Tower Bridge Southern Approach, in respect of which the committee make the following recommendation:—That, subject to the Vestry of Bermondsey contributing £22,000, the St. Olave's District Board £5,000, and the Vestry of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, £5,000, powers be sought by the council to construct a new street, 80 feet wide, from Tooley-street to Bermondsey New-road, and to widen Bermondsey New-road from its junction with the new street to Old Kent-road."

A CLERGYMAN CHARGED WITH THEFT.

Aiken Grace, 45, a clergyman, giving an address at Greenwich, E. London, was charged with stealing a hymn-book, valued at 3s., from St. John's Church, Southwick Crescent, Paddington.—T. Walker Thompson, a former mason, said he was working inside St. John's Church the previous day, when the prisoner entered the church and went into various pews and picked up hymn-books. When subsequently questioned by a constable prisoner produced four small books, being copies of a collection of hymns. The magistrate looked at the books and remarked that the prisoner appeared to be the author, his name being printed on the inside covers. The witness, continuing, said the accused also produced two gilt-edged books, a hymn-book, and a prayer-book, which he said he did not know were in his pocket.—Detective-sergeant Thompson, said he made inquiries, and found that the prisoner was a clergyman, and that he lodged at George-street, Euston-square. He had had a living at Thwaites, near Eye, Norfolk, and the bishop of the diocese had suspended him for three years for habits of drunkenness.—Prisoner denied the charge of stealing a hymn-book, valued at 3s., from St. John's Church, Southwick Crescent, Paddington.—T. Walker Thompson, a former mason, said he was working inside St. John's Church the previous day, when the prisoner entered the church and went into various pews and picked up hymn-books. When subsequently questioned by a constable prisoner produced four small books, being copies of a collection of hymns. The magistrate looked at the books and remarked that the prisoner appeared to be the author, his name being printed on the inside covers. 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LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

FIRE IN NORTH-WEST LONDON.

The P. and O. steamer *Satle* from Bombay for London arrived at Aden.

The P. and O. steamer *Victoria* from Australia for London has left Colombo.

The P. and O. steamer *Poninsular* from London has arrived at Bombay.

The Central Line steamer *Hiraxis* has left New York with 331 saloons, 137 second-class passengers, and 446 bags of mails.

Mr. W. W. Carlile, of Grayhurst House, Bexley, has been adopted Conservative candidate for North Bucks.

A fire occurred on Saturday at Brookmans North Mine, near Hatfield, the residence of Captain Gossman, J.P. The house was almost destroyed.

Messrs. McLean, Shaw, and Company, who have hatters' Montreal, have failed for £15,000. The heaviest creditors are English and German houses.

About fifty of the draymen in the employ of the Orleans Railway Company, who recently went out on strike in Paris, have resumed work.

The Grand districts of Belfast were, as usual, supplied with Orange arched buildings in William III., the Earl of Beaconsfield, etc., but all surmounted with the crown.

There was no disturbance at the grand opening of the new Parliament of the United Kingdom.

The International Committee of the Red Cross Society has decided to hold a fifth congress, to be held at Rome in April, 1892, to which all Governments will be invited to send delegates.

The Russian ambassador has informed the young King of Servia that the Czar has put a special train at his disposal to convey him from Odessa to St. Petersburg. He will be lodged in the Winter Palace, and will go in the Czar's yacht to Cronstadt.

An old woman has been found in a house in the east end of Greenock with marks on her throat which lead the police to believe she was murdered. A young sailor, employed on an Atlantic liner, has been arrested on suspicion.

The Greenock police have liberated the ship's steward, Herbert Gordon Stewart, who was apprehended pending inquiries into the sudden death of his landlady, Mrs. Donnelly, it being ascertained that death was due to natural causes.

Telegrams from New Langbach, in Lower Austria, reported that great damage was caused by a violent thunderstorm. The lightning set fire to eighteen farms and one dwelling-house, all of which were destroyed.

The district of Kempen, near Cologne, was visited by a cyclone, which has destroyed houses and crops for many miles, and caused great suffering and destitution. The Government and the public have been appealed to for assistance.

The wife of General O'Neill, who shot her husband on May 20th last, in Wiesbaden, from motives of jealousy, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, has been reconciled, and the pair are now living together.

A newspaper announced the discovery of an enormous cavern in Josephine County, Oregon, at point twelve miles north of California and forty from the coast. A week was spent in exploring the cavern, and innumerable passages and chambers were discovered.

The interview between the young King of Servia and his mother, Queen Natalie, which was proposed should take place on the occasion of the King's forthcoming journey to St. Petersburg, has been finally decided against. The Regents have vetoed the proposal.

Ralph Joyce, 21, a private in the South Staffords' Regiment, and W. Hutchinson, 21, a private in the King's Royal Rifles, were at Dublin Police Court committed for trial, charged with being concerned with other soldiers in an aggravated assault upon Catherine Medmon, a nurse, aged 17.

A public park, 30 acres in extent, presented and beautifully laid out by the Consett Iron Company at a cost of several thousand pounds, for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Consett district, was formally opened by Mrs. and Alderman David Dale, of Darlington, in the presence of 15,000 people amid great rejoicings.

The Duke of Devonshire's keepers who were watching in Chatsworth Park, surprised a gang of poachers. A desperate affray ensued. Eventually the gang made off leaving one of their number in the hands of the keepers. Two of the latter were somewhat seriously injured.

The Buckingham magistrates on Saturday fined Private E. W. Lacy, of Cookham, £5, and Private J. Jones, of Beaconsfield, £1, for breach of one of the Royal Bucks Hussars' rules. The prosecution was taken by Colonel Lord Chesham. The men did not turn out at the recent permanent duty, neither did they remit the fine due in such cases.

The King of Denmark has commuted the sentence of death upon Adolph Philipson to one of penal servitude during the King's pleasure. Philipson is the soap manufacturer who murdered an old factory messenger, named Meyer, in Copenhagen, on January 7th, 1890, and sent the body in a barrel to New York.

On Saturday afternoon, 2,000 of Messrs. Tangye's workpeople held a demonstration in Sutton Park, to thank the firm for conceding the men the limit of fifty-four hours a week. Recently there has been a movement in favour of the reduction of hours in the engineering trade from fifty-four to fifty-three, and Messrs. Tangye were amongst the first to meet their workpeople's wishes.

An elderly woman named Mary Anne Roughton has succumbed from the effects of a blow on the head, alleged to have been inflicted by a woman named Kent with a pitchfork. The blow fractured Roughton's skull and caused internal bleeding. The woman Kent decamped, but was arrested. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the accused.

Sir Henry Doulton has distributed the prizes at the British Orphan Asylum. Mr. Algernon Gilliat, chairman of the directors, made a very satisfactory statement concerning the position of the school, and pleaded earnestly for further subscriptions. After distributing the prizes Sir Henry Doulton delivered a brief address to the children exhorting them in particular to be amenable to discipline and patient under authority.

A small boy named Hall, who had been left to mind a couple of younger children during his mother's absence from home, was discovered on her return hanging by the neck from a hook in the ceiling. There was nothing noticeable in the boy's behaviour beforehand, nor any apparent reason why he was committed suicide, but it is thought he was playing with the rope to amuse the children, and by some accident overbalanced himself and was strangled.

An inquiry was held by Mr. Langham, City coroner, into the circumstances of the recent fire at No. 86, Leadenhall-street. Mr. Silas Nicholas, an agricultural engineer, and one of the tenants, had written that "the fire was due to such careless circumstances as to lead to the belief that the fire was desired." No evidence was produced in support of this statement, and the general impression of the witnesses was that the fire arose accidentally. An open verdict was returned.

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SUPPOSED SUICIDE AT HAMPSTEAD.

SENATE OF DEATH.

On the 11th inst., at Lincoln Assizes, Arthur Spender, 26, pork butcher, was tried on a charge of murdering a widow named Mary Ann Garner, with whom he lodged, by shooting her. The prisoner went to her house with a revolver and fired four shots at the woman, and afterwards two at himself. Two shots took effect upon the woman, and one bullet fired at himself went through his heart and lodged near the spine. It has not been extracted. The prisoner had previously threatened to shoot the woman because she refused to marry him. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to death.

An exceptionally strong programme will be presented upon the occasion of Mr. Arthur Roberts' complimentary matinee at the Opera Comique on Monday, July 20th. The long list of attractions will include, "A Pantomime Rehearsal," from Terry's Theatre; selections from "Guy Fawkes," Etc.; "Katti," with Miss Alice Atherton, Mr. Edwin, and the Strand Theatre Company.

"That Dreadful Doctor," a comedietta by the late Sir Charles Young, the Moors and Hargreaves Minstrels, the Meister Glee Singers, Misses Florence St. John, Marion Hood, Katie Seymour, Alice Lethbridge, and Albert C. D. Marus, George Giddens, Albert Chevalier, Willi Ward, Brost and Riviere, and the Schaeffer Troupe from the Empire.

In addition to the above Mr. Roberts has a

long list of artists in various branches of the profession who have volunteered for the occasion.

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by afflictions following upon an attack of in-

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DEPARTURE OF THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

The German Emperor and Empress, at the close of their visit to Lord Salisbury, left Hatfield on Monday afternoon for Windsor. Having paid a farewell visit to the Queen, their suite came to London, driving direct from Paddington to Liverpool-street Station, whence the Empress proceeded to Feltham to join her children. The Emperor, after returning to Buckingham Palace, drove through the park to Dudley House to dine with Lady Dudley and a distinguished company. Shortly after ten o'clock, his Majesty left for King's Cross Station, whence he proceeded by special train to Leith to embark in the Hohenzollern for a cruise in northern waters. Leith was reached at seven o'clock on Tuesday morning. On alighting his Majesty was received by Major-general Lyttelton Anneley, Commander of the Forces in Scotland, and Mr. Knoblauch, the German consul. He cordially shook hands with those on the platform with whom he was acquainted. As the carriages containing the imperial party drove off a cheer was raised by the large crowd of people who had assembled, even at that early hour. The Emperor, on reaching the dock, stepped on board a cutter, and was rowed out to his yacht, the Hohenzollern, which was lying about three-quarters of a mile from the end of the pier. On his arrival his Majesty was received with a salute of twenty-one guns from the German warships in the Roads. It was not till a little after ten o'clock that the imperial yacht was observed from the Forth Bridge steaming up the estuary. Directly the vessel hove in sight at the point, the guardsmen at North Queensferry ran up a display of hunting on the flagstaff. At that time the weather was beautifully clear, the sun shining out brilliantly. Several trading steamers, on nearing the Hohenzollern, displayed the Union Jack from the stern, subsequently dipping it in the water. When about half a mile distant from the bridge the speed of the imperial yacht as it left the fairway and took a southerly course, was considerably reduced, as it had been decided to steam under the bridge by the south channel. The decks of the yacht presented a lively scene. The officers were assembled in the afterpart of the vessel, while the great bulk of the crew crowded the forepart, all giving indications of their appreciation of the wonderful structure. The workmen employed on the bridge, some sixty in number, ranged from side to side, and indulged in a cheer in honour of the Emperor, many of those on board responding. The Hohenzollern continued steaming up the estuary till almost directly off Port Edgar. Here the yacht passed between the tender Dundas and dismantled Dido, and then turned her head eastwards inside the Beamer Rock. The return to the bridge was made pretty quickly, and by eleven o'clock the Hohenzollern had steamed through the north channel. Full steam was immediately afterwards put on, the yacht gliding rapidly down the estuary, followed at a respectful distance by one of the Galloway Line of passenger boats. Both at North and South Queensferry a number of people gathered along the shore, and had a capital view of the imperial yacht. Not a single passenger train crossed the bridge while the yacht was in the vicinity. After the Hohenzollern had steamed a little to the west of the structure a luggage van made its appearance from the south, while another crossed from the same end, and the vessel approached the north channel on its way down the Firth. The Emperor will proceed direct to Bremen from the Forth, and then to the North Cape, where, about the 21st inst., a whale hunt is to be organized in his honour.

LYNNES TO THE LORD MAYOR.
The Lord Mayor has received the following letter from Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador:—“German Embassy, July 12th, 1891.—My Lord Mayor.—His Imperial and Royal Majesty, the Emperor and King, my Sovereign, commands me to convey to your lordship his most sincere thanks for the generous and magnificent hospitality you have offered their majesties at the Guildhall, in the City of London. His Majesty further commands me to inform you that he would be much pleased if you would bring to the notice of the citizens of London his sense of gratitude for the hearty welcome given to him and his consort by the inhabitants of the metropolis on every occasion during their majesties’ stay in the capital of this hospitable country. I feel great satisfaction in conveying to your lordship this imperial message, and have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, my Lord Mayor, your lordship’s most obedient servant, HATZFELDT.

THE EMPEROR AND THE POLICE.
The Emperor has caused to be conveyed to the authorities his thanks for the excellent police arrangements made for his comfort and safety during his sojourn in London. On the recommendation of Sir E. Bradford, the Chief Commissioner, the Home Secretary, has authorised the granting of three days’ extra leave to all the men who were employed in connection with the Emperor’s visit. The name only became known in the force at a late hour on Tuesday evening, and gave great satisfaction. The German ambassador has sent to Mr. W. A. Coote, secretary of the National Vigilance Association, a gold pin studded with diamonds, as a special recognition from the Emperor of the services of the association on behalf of destitute German young women.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT ON THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

The Duke of Connaught, speaking at the dinner of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, at Portsmouth, said:—“I have no right to divulge secrets, but it may interest you to know that on arriving at Portsmouth from London I received a telegram from the German Emperor, in which he said, ‘I cannot leave the hospitable shores of this country without thanking you, among others, for the very warm and cordial reception given to myself and the Empress.’ His Majesty, continued his royal highness, has not been favoured with an opportunity as yet of giving public expression of his gratefulness, but I know he would be the first to wish to give full expression to his feelings. He told me when I accompanied him to the railway station, that he felt that, for a foreigner like himself, it was difficult to imagine that he could have been accorded such a warm reception from the people of England. (Cheers.) I may add that he knows that it is not so much for himself alone, but because he is the grandson of the Sovereign of this country, that the English people have so warmly received him. At the same time, I hope that the happy coincidence of the Emperor being the grandson of the Queen may lead to the promotion of harmony between the two countries of England and Germany for the happiness of the world and of the two countries. At the conclusion of the speech, three cheers were given for the Emperor and the duke.

ENJOYED THEMSELVES IMMENSELY.
The members of the German Emperor’s suite have aroused during his stay in England much interest and admiration by reason of their brilliant uniforms and gallant bearing. It is, therefore, interesting to know that they have enjoyed themselves immensely. “It was my good fortune” (writes a correspondent) “to sit next to one of the suite—colonel in the Uhlans—at the Albert Hall last week, and he assured me that

he had never enjoyed himself so much anywhere as he had during his visit to England. In fact, the only drawback to the perfect pleasure of his stay appeared to be that the amount of hospitality the suite had enjoyed made rather large demands on their powers of eating and drinking. They were invited out to breakfast, luncheon, ‘club-tea’ dinner, and supper, and were everywhere entertained in the same genial and hospitable manner. In fact, the gallant colonel could hardly find words to express his enthusiastic appreciation of the welcome and hospitable entertainment he and the other visitors had enjoyed in England. I fear when he returns to his native land he will be thought to be suffering from a very severe attack of Anglomania. For the Albert Hall concert even the German language seemed too bold and cold to express his delight. He had been, said in many lands and seen many wonderful and beautiful things, but to him that evening would always be the ‘fifth wonder of the world.’ It was a ‘Waltzunder,’ the whole scene was ‘wonder-schön.’ The Duchess of Edinburgh, who sat on the Emperor’s right hand, was ‘reisen.’ The Prince of Wales was the most amiable and delightful of men. But when he spoke of his Kaiser his face lit up with the admiration and love he felt. ‘In public,’ said he, ‘the Emperor makes so solemn and wise a face that everybody thinks he must be a most serious, sedate person; but when he is with us nobody can be so merry and bright.’ ‘Naturally,’ I answered, ‘as he loves his soldiers more than anything.’ ‘He cannot love us more than we love him,’ averred the soldier. ‘Every one of us would shed the last drop of blood in his veins for him. I have fought in many battles under Wilhelm I., and other great commanders, but for none of them would I fight so gladly as for Kaiser Wilhelm II. Ich ist ein wundervoller Mann!’ And, indeed, the enthusiasm which this young man can inspire proves his devoted adherent right in describing him as such glowing terms as a wonderful man.”

DECORATIONS.

The German Emperor has bestowed the following decorations upon the staff of the German embassy, and prominent German subjects resident in England—Baron Schroeder, Order of the Second Class of the Red Eagle, with star; Baron Deichman, Order of the Second Class of the Order of the Crown; Prince Pless, Order of the Fourth Class of the Red Eagle; Mr. Eicker Jentsch, Order of the Fourth Class of the Red Eagle; Count Quadt, Order of the Fourth Class of the Crown; Count Hermann Hatzfeldt, Order of the Fourth Class of the Crown; Rev. Dr. Scholl, Order of the Third Class of the Red Eagle; Baron Humboldt, German Vice-Consul, Order of the Fourth Class of the Red Eagle; Mr. D. M. Burger, Order of the Fourth Class of the Red Eagle; Mr. Oldmeyer, Order of the Fourth Class of the Red Eagle; Herr Neef, First Secretary in the German General Consulate, Herr Sandow and Herr Spree, clerks at the Embassy; Mr. Manns, musical director, Crystal Palace, and Consul Krieger (Cardiff), Gordon (Newcastle), and Knoblauch (Leith), the Orders of the Fourth Class of the Crown. Among others who were decorated by the German Emperor before his departure from London was M. Ernest Bunsen, who received the Order of the Crown.

THE GERMAN EMPRESS AND HER SONS.

The German Empress, travelling with the Countess of Ravensberg, and accompanied by her five sons—the Crown Prince, Prince Eitel Fritz, Prince Adalbert, Prince Augustus, and Prince Oscar—travelled on Wednesday by special train from Feltham to Windsor on a visit to the Queen. The young princes—five little fellows—all, except the youngest, dressed in white knicker-bocker sailor costumes, with blue collars and straw hats. The imperial party left Feltham at nine o’clock in the morning, and arrived at Windsor shortly before noon. Princess Christian drove in her Victoria to the station to receive the Empress, and awaited her coming at the royal room. Major-general Sir Henry Ewart, in Windsor uniform, was present on behalf of the Queen, and the Mayor (Mr. Dyson), and Councillor Layton represented the corporation. Mr. Johnson, who had charge of the terminal arrangements, was also in attendance upon the platform, which was kept by a detachment of the metropolitan police. The palace guard was mounted on the castle hill, opposite Henry VIII.’s gateway, and the weather being fine, many of the residents assembled in the vicinity of the castle and station during the imperial arrival. Princess Christian, when the train stopped, walked to the saloon, and, after helping the little princes out of the carriage and affectionately kissing and patting them upon the head, welcomed the Empress when she alighted and conducted her to the Queen’s room, where her royal highness remained for a few minutes conversing with her imperial Majesty. At the castle the visitors were received by the Queen. The Empress and her children took luncheon at the palace, and the three eldest princes went to St. George’s Chapel and saw the statue of their grandfather, the late Emperor Frederick, which the Queen has had erected in the south aisle. The Empress and her boys remained at the castle till four o’clock, when they drove with Princess Christian, attended by Major-general Ewart, to the Great Western Station, where the special train was waiting to convey them back to the Suffolk coast. The imperial saloon had been previously prepared for the return journey, and a basket of the choicest red and white roses and maidenhair fern was placed upon the side table in the Empress’s carriage. The Mayor of Windsor was again in attendance at the departure of the imperial visitors. The Empress and her children took leave of Princess Christian at the Queen’s waiting-room, and then entered the train, which left immediately after for its destination. The imperial train, on quitting Windsor, travelled over the Great Western Railway to Acton, and thence past Victoria Park and along the Great Eastern line to Feltham, where the Empress and her children arrived about seven o’clock in the evening.

ALLEGED MURDER NINE YEARS AGO.
At the Berwick Police Court on Friday, William Burke, butcher, of Berwick, was again brought up in custody and charged, on remand, with having, in or about August, 1882, murdered John Burns, a butcher’s apprentice. Great interest was shown in the case, and the court was crowded almost as soon as it was opened. Mr. Weatherhead, in his opening statement, said it was alleged that the murder took place on the night of August 1st, 1882. Robert Armstrong, who had followed Burke, Burns, and Miss Dods along the Tweed, heard them wrangling, and concealing himself behind a boat, he saw Burke and Burns fight. Burns fell. He alleges that he then saw Burke kick Burns and throw him into the water, after which he went away. Some fishermen who were near heard, as well as Armstrong, a loud scream which Burns gave as he fell into the water. It would be for the magistrates to say whether Armstrong had imagined all this—Evidence was then called, and the hearing was adjourned.

The Terriers’ second annual fete, in aid of their philanthropic fund, will be held at The Greyhound, Dulwich, on Tuesday, July 21st. A very attractive programme has been arranged.

THE WEEK’S DIVORCE CASES.

A REMARKABLE CASE.

HALL V. HALL AND BARNARD.—This was the petition of the husband, Mr. H. P. Hall. Answers were filed denying the charge, and the respondent made counter allegations against her husband of cruelty and adultery, which he denied. Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., and Mr. Bargrave Denyer appeared for the petitioner, and Mr. Cyril Dodd, Q.C., and Mr. Sears for the respondent. It appeared that the petitioner made the acquaintance of the respondent in 1872, at which time she was in the service of a lady at Brighton. It was admitted that they lived together, but in 1881 he married her. They resided at Clapham and Ealing, and there were two children. The petitioner had formerly been a member of the Stock Exchange, but had, it was stated, been obliged to give up business, and was now living on not a very large income. Two or three years after the marriage the respondent became addicted to habits of intemperance, which grew upon her. At times her conduct, according to the evidence of the petitioner, was extraordinary and violent. Upon two or three occasions she had struck him, once with a poker. She had threatened him, and on one occasion took up a carving-knife to him. She had

TRAITERED TO POISON THE CHILDREN.

HUSBAND V. HURLEY AND MENZIES.—The husband was the petitioner in this case.—Mr. Lockwood, on his behalf, said Mr. Hurley was the chief superintendent of the telegraphic survey in Ceylon. In October, 1882, he married in Ceylon his present wife, and they lived together in Ceylon for some time, and there were three children by the marriage. The co-respondent, Major Menzies, was a major in the Gordon Highlanders, and it was while the regiment was stationed in Ceylon that they made his acquaintance. In June, 1882, the petitioner was away for a month, and while away he had written a letter, the contents of which he communicated to his wife. She said they were untrue, and that Major Menzies had visited her, but that his visits were purely formal. He then wrote her a letter, telling her that if she continued to visit or receive visits from Major Menzies, he should seek legal advice. Eventually a deed of separation was prepared and executed, he allowing her £175 a year. Under the deed she was to see the children twice a week, but owing to her condition at this time this was denied her. Proceedings were taken in the Court of Chancery to set aside the deed, on the ground that some of its provisions had been broken. He put in a defence and her solicitor after that ceased to act. In cross-examination by Mr. Dodd, Q.C., he said that his wife was insane when she was drunk, but sane when she was sober. Had consulted a doctor in regard to her mental state.—Was not your object to have her locked up in a lunatic asylum? I wanted to be advised as to her state. I could not make up my mind whether she was insane or not.—The doctor reported that your wife was sane? It must be.—Cross-examination continued: At Hastings she wrote to her husband asking for information as to the whereabouts of her child. He wanted to get her in a home for inebriates. She had written to him letters imploring to be taken back, and expressing regret at signing the deed of separation, as she was deprived of the children.—Dr. Arthur Hog, in practice at Ealing, said in 1882 he attended the petitioner’s family. Mrs. Hall used to take too much stimulants, and he advised the petitioner to get the children out of her way. He had been consulted with regard to the state of her health, and found that she was sane.—Louisa Castrick, formerly governess to Mrs. Hall’s children, also gave evidence as to the intemperate habits of the respondent, who at first said she suffered from hysteria. She

SECRETLY DRAME BRANDY.

Replies to the learned judge, Mr. Cyril Dodd said he could not deny that his client drank. The witness further stated that the respondent had threatened to poison the children.—Mrs. Simmons, of Kensington Park-road, gave evidence as to the respondent’s engaging apartments at her house for his sister-in-law, who afterwards came to the house. She now knew her name. She had written to him letters imploring to be taken back to the landlady asking her to hand the enclosed to Mrs. Hurley. It would be proved that Major Menzies took rooms at the Adelphi Hotel, and that the respondent visited him there frequently, and there would be no doubt that that was where the adultery was committed.—In his evidence the petitioner said that on the 10th of November he received a letter from Major Menzies stating that he was grieved that he (the petitioner) had so misjudged him. On the 12th of November he received a letter which was sent under cover to the landlady. The landlady gave him the letter. 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LAST WEEK'S

London County Sessions.

Clerkenwell.

(Before Mr. Loveland Loveland.)

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A CONSTABLE.

Berry Shelton, a constable of the A Division of metropolitan police, was indicted for occasioning bodily harm.—Mr. Geoghegan, previous to the case being called, on, asked for the jury to leave the court while he made an application. He said a person named Moore, who was prosecuting the case against Shelton, was summoned for an assault upon him. The grand jury at a previous session had thrown out the bill against Moore, but the police having obtained fresh evidence, the grand jury had now found a true bill. He asked that Shelton's case might be taken first, otherwise Moore's mouth would be closed, and also that of his wife who was the principal witness against Shelton.—Mr. Besley objected on the ground that the proceedings were first taken against Moore.—Mr. Loveland held that according to all rules of law, the charge against the constable should be taken first. On the case being called on evidence was produced to the effect that on the night of the 6th of May the prosecutor, who is caretaker at 59 and 60, Chancery-lane, went with his wife, wife's sister, and a servant to Hyde Park, and that at about half-past eleven they were playing round an enclosure near Hyde Park Corner at " hide and go seek." Miss Evans and the servant being the seekers for Moore and his wife. They found them, and were laughing, when the defendant was alleged to have come up and said to the prosecutor, "Get away there." The prosecutor told him he had a right to be there, and in reply the constable made use of foul language and struck the prosecutor. Mrs. Moore said she was the prosecutor's wife, and then it was further stated the defendant struck her on the breast. The prosecutor seized the defendant and at the same time sent the servant for a constable. The defendant blew his whistle, and another constable came up, and the prosecutor was taken to the police station and charged with assaulting the constable. During the time the charge was being entered it was stated Mrs. Moore, Miss Evans, and the servant complained to the sergeant on duty of the defendant striking Mrs. Moore, but no proceedings were taken against him until upon the first hearing of the case against Moore at Marlborough-street, when a summons was granted against the defendant, and the witnesses were subject to a very severe cross-examination, but they swore positively to the assault on Mrs. Moore. For the defence two females were called who stated they saw no assault committed on Mrs. Moore on the way to the police station, and several police constables stated they did not hear Mrs. Moore complain of any assault when she was inside the station and the charge against her husband was being taken. The jury, after a brief consultation, found the prisoner guilty of having assaulted both the prosecutor and his wife. Mr. Geoghegan having stated that there was no desire to press the charge against the defendant, he was liberated on bail.

Clerkenwell.

POCKET-PICKING IN THE CRY. — Michael Dwyer, 19, was charged with attempting to pick pockets in the City on Friday evening. Detective Huxley gave evidence as to seeing the prisoner make several attempts to pick ladies' pockets in the Poultney, Threadneedle-street, and various other streets in the City. The officer arrested the prisoner, upon whom £60 in silver and coppers was found when he was searched.—The prisoner, in answer to the charge, said that he was innocent. The officers knew that he had been a thief, and that was why they took him into custody.—P.C. Miller proved previous convictions against the accused.—Mr. Alderman Cowan sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

Mansion House.

WATCH SWATCHING IN A CROWD.—Charles Murray and Frederick Holmes were charged with stealing a gold watch of the value of £14, the property of Mr. George Smale. The evidence showed that on Friday afternoon Detective Bryant was in Queen Victoria-street with another officer, and saw the prisoners surround the prosecutor. There was a crowd, and the police officers were carried some distance away by the crowd, and they lost sight of the prisoners, and the prosecutor. They waited for a short time in Bridge-street. The prosecutor who lost his watch came up. The officers then went in search of the prisoners, and found them talking to a number of other men. The prisoners were arrested. Murray took something from his pocket and held it in his hand, and it was found to be the prosecutor's watch. Murray denied all knowledge of Holmes.—The Lord Mayor sentenced the prisoners each to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.—There was a number of other charges of picking pockets arising out of the crowds in the streets on Friday.

Marlborough-street.

A CLERK IN TROUBLE.—Arthur E. Fisher, a clerk of Albany-street, Regent's Park, was charged with having forged and uttered an order on the Union Bank of London for fifty shillings.—It was alleged that Fisher, who was discharged from the service of Mr. Bird, an engineer, of Great Castle-street, Oxford-street, about three weeks ago, despatched a letter containing an order for a cheque-book, bearing what purported to be Mr. Bird's signature, from Charing Cross Post Office, by express messenger to the Albany-place branch of the Union Bank of London just before the bank closed on Friday afternoon.

Wandsworth.

DRINK AND RUIN.—George Cant, of no fixed abode, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences from two married women, named West and Lord, living at Wimbledon.—The accused went to their houses, and by stating that their husbands had told him to call for money for potatoes they had ordered, he succeeded, it was alleged, in obtaining £20 out from Mrs. West and £2 from Mr. Lord.—P.C. Carver said there was no previous complaint against the accused, whose trouble had been brought about by over-indulgence in strong drink, to which he had given himself up entirely since Christmas and had lost two good situations in consequence.—Mr. Deasman committed him for trial.

He before he called in Detective Lupton, that officer accompanied the messenger back to the Charing Cross Post Office, and waited until a shoblock came in and asked for the answer for "Ward," the name Fisher had given. He then learned from the lad that the person who had sent him was waiting at Charing Cross Railway Station, and went across and arrested him. When charged Fisher made a written statement, which was not read in court.—Mr. Bird said he did not wish Fisher to be severely dealt with.—Mr. Hannay replied that it was, as far as he could see at present, too serious a case for him to deal with. Fisher would be remanded.

Worship-street.

GIRLS AND THEIR WORK.—Messrs. Birnbaum and Son, waterproof garment makers, of Wick-lane, Old Ford, summoned three of their apprentices—girls of about 18 years of age—for disobeying their lawful commands and general neglect of work. It was stated that the complainants employed about 150 girls, and that these were only test cases. Mr. Bedford (Abbott and Co.) defended in the only case heard, which, it was said, would rule all.—It was proved that Messrs. Birnbaum required those of their apprentices who had been two years in their employ to make seven waterproof cloaks per week. It was said by the foreman to the prosecutors that five-sixths of the girls did that—which was called the "log"—without difficulty, but lately there had been an almost general arrangement to "limit the output."—A member of the firm, who stated the facts, said there was no desire to press the girls hardy,

but they had apparently come to some agreement among themselves to do no more than five garments a week.—Mr. Bedford elicited that the firm had pursued a practice of flogging the girls who did not do the amount of work which it was said had up to recently been done without difficulty.—Mr. Busby said such a practice was not provided for in the indentures of apprenticeship, and was therefore illegal. As to whether the firm had fixed the task of work too high, he was not able to judge except by evidence.

One of the girls summoned being called as a witness, asserted that it could only be done by appropriating a part of the meal time. She and another, however, admitted that they had more than once made a full week's work, but the effect and the manner of giving evidence showed that the girls had determined to take matters into their own hands.—Mr. Busby thought the prisoner threw the bag away. The lady who owned the bag refused to prosecute. The prisoner now denied his innocence.—Mr. Montagu Williams: Will you go to the sessions?—The prisoner: I am innocent.—Mr. Williams: That will be for a judge and jury to decide.—The Prisoner: I will plead guilty.—Mr. Williams: One month's hard labour.

Highgate.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A CLERK.—A respectably dressed young man, who at first gave his name as John Thompson, of Farringdon-street, but afterwards said that his correct name was James Bryce, 23, clerk, of Charterhouse-street, was charged with assaulting Annie Fitzpatrick, aged 18, the daughter of a printer, of Archway-road, Highgate.—Annie Fitzpatrick, who gave her evidence very intelligently, said that late on Friday night her father sent her on an errand, and when only a few yards from his house, stopped her and told her that if she would go with him up the road he would give her some sweets. She tried to push him, but he held her and acted in an improper manner. She got away from him and ran home and told her father. The father said it was nearly eleven o'clock when he sent the girl out. He had been with his family to London to see the decorations, and when they came back he sent the child to a neighbouring shop. She returned in about five minutes, and he at once went in search of the man, taking her with him. She pointed the prisoner out to him, and he handed him over to a policeman. Prisoner was not drunk, but "muddled." At first he denied the offence, but afterwards said that he must admit it.—Prisoner, who said he remembered nothing about it, was remanded.

Thames.

STABBING A BROTHER-IN-LAW.—Jessie Townsend, 26, was charged with assaulting Jessie Fundell, 22, Love Lane, Kitchin.—Prosecutor said the accused was his sister-in-law. On the 23rd June he was outside the door of his house, and was told something by his wife about the prisoner's conduct. As soon as the accused came up she began quarrelling with his wife, and they exchanged blows. Prisoner stabbed his wife in the cheek, and she (the wife) said, "Look what I have got." At the same time pointing to her cheek. Witness got between them, when prisoner aimed a blow at his left eye with her right hand, in which she had something. The blow struck him in the eye, and it bled. He was in great pain, and was taken to the hospital, where he remained until Tuesday. At the hospital his eye was removed.—Mr. Mead remanded the prisoner for the attendance of the doctor.

Marylebone.

THE STRIKE IN THE BUILDING TRADE.—Francis George Burton, a carpenter, living at 56, Upper Gloucester-place, W., was summoned by Edward White, a builder, of 63, Weymouth-street, Marylebone, who claimed £10 as damages through loss sustained by interruption of business and inability to complete contracts.—Mr. White said this case had arisen out of the strike amongst the carpenters in the building trade. The defendant had worked for him some years past, and had received first £1. an hour, and afterwards 9d., and when the strike was commenced he made an agreement with the defendant that the arrangement to pay by the hour should be abandoned, and that the defendant should work for him at a weekly salary of £10, a week, one week's notice to terminate the agreement to be given on either side. All the carpenters in complainant's employ had for some time been drawn out by the strike committee, except the defendant, who still remained at work under the new terms.

On Tuesday, 23rd June, the defendant intimated his intention of leaving that day, and complainant reminded him that the terms of the agreement was that a week's notice should be given on either side, and those terms would have to be adhered to, or defendant would have to accept the consequences. Saturday, and not Tuesday, was the day for the notice to be given, in spite of that warning the defendant left his work and went out on strike. The defendant's conduct had caused him to lose more than three-quarters of a mile they saw the constable, who deliberately put his walking-stick between the wheels of his friend's machine and caused him to fall off. They were only going at a walking pace, as was evidenced by the fact that they had been a quarter of an hour covering three-quarters of a mile.—After some remarks from the defendant, who said he had reported the matter at Scotland Yard without receiving a satisfactory reply.—Sir Thomas Edridge inflicted a fine of 20s., and 12s. 6d. costs.

Greenwich.

THEFT OF CIGARS.—Arthur Bradman, 19, labourer, of Clyde-terrace, Forest Hill, was charged with breaking into the brewery office, Ferry Vale, Forest Hill, and stealing seven boxes of cigars, the property of the Forest Hill Brewery Company.—P.C. 626 F said he overtook the prisoner in a private entrance o'clock, when both their lamps were alight. They had gone about 100 yards when witness noticed that the defendant's light had gone out, and told him so. He (Gray) replied, "I don't think it matters now, it's close home," and asked him to keep close to him. After they had travelled about three-quarters of a mile they saw the constable, who deliberately put his walking-stick between the wheels of his friend's machine and caused him to fall off. Suddenly he was heard to call out, and, on looking round, Sims's arm was seen in the wheel, and going round with it. The machine was at once stopped, and the arm extricated, but it was so crushed that it hung from the shoulder. He was removed to the Royal Free Hospital, where the limb was amputated, but he died the same evening.

Mr. Robert Grimes, factory sub-inspector, said the machinery appeared free from danger, with the exception of two or three more guards at the cog and fly-wheels.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

A CUSTOM HOUSE BOATMAN DROWNED.—Mr. G. P. Wyatt inquired into the circumstances attending the death of William Edward Bollen, 49, a Custom House-boatman, of Albany-street, Deptford.—Patrick Vaughan, an officer of Customs, stated that deceased on the 4th rowed him alongside a steamer near East-lane, Bermondsey, which he boarded, leaving him to look after the boat. The deceased made the boat fast to a barge, but shortly afterwards the chief officer of the ship informed witness that one of his men was gone. The deceased, it appeared, had boarded the barge and fallen overboard. The actual fatality was, however, not witnessed by any one, but the deceased's heels were seen disappearing underneath the water.—Other evidence showed that the deceased never rose to the surface again. The deceased was sober.

—Inspector Lilley proved that the deceased was the cigar were, but that morning no

was found that an entry had been effected by breaking a window, the aperture made being large enough to admit a man.

The exact number of cigars taken £50, value about £5, the whole of which had been recovered.

The safe had also been opened and books strewn about the floor.—The prisoner, who said he knew nothing about the safe, was remanded.

In the case recently reported, in which Mr. W. E. Thomas, of Pavian-street, Millwall, was charged at the Thames Police Court with causing an obstruction under the Betting Act, it was stated that the magistrate reserved his decision until a pending case was decided in the Court of Appeal. As a matter of fact, the magistrate, after hearing the evidence for the defence, dismissed the case.

INQUESTS.

FATAL FALL OF AN OLD LADY.—An inquest was held on the body of Mary Ann Smith, widow, 75, late of Shoreham. She was staying with her granddaughter at Eynsford, and a few days ago was given homewards, and when two days ago from her granddaughter's house, a boy who was being chased by a man ran across one side of her, and the man on the other, she fell, and on being picked up complained of pain in her leg, and was carried indoors. She was seen by Mr. Smith, of Farningham, who found that she had sustained a fracture of the right thigh. She had been suffering from bronchitis, and was unable to lie on her back in consequence. She gradually succumbed. Both the man and the boy denied that they touched the deceased when she fell, and it is supposed that, being very tottery and frightened, she fell.—The jury returned a verdict that she died from chronic bronchitis, accelerated by a broken thigh, and from an accidental fall.

FATAL FALL AT A RAILWAY STATION.—Mr. Collier held an inquiry concerning the death of Emma Foster, the wife of a milkman, of Helmet-row, West Ham.—Thomas Abrahams, station master at the Bow-station of the North London Railway, deposed that on the 29th of last month he was standing at the foot of the central staircase, when he saw the deceased, coming from the ticket barrier. She was hurrying to catch the train when witness called out, "Don't hurry, madam; the train has gone." She then appeared to catch her foot in her dress or something, and pitched headlong on to the landing. He picked her up and sent for a doctor, and she was afterwards removed to the London Hospital. When witness picked

her up she said it was entirely her own fault, and no one was to blame.—The medical evidence showed that death was due to epiphyses and shock consequent on the injuries.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

SUICIDE FROM THE ALBERT EMBANKMENT.

—Mr. G. P. Wyatt held an inquest on the body of Charles Joseph Wellman, a cabinet-maker, late of Pensbury-street, Wandsworth-road.—Joseph Nicholas Wellman, the father, said that deceased had been staying with him for the last few weeks in consequence of his son having sold up his goods for rent. He had been greatly depressed in consequence.—Mr. Montagu Williams: Will you go to the sessions?—The prisoner: I am innocent.—Mr. Williams: That will be for a judge and jury to decide.—The Prisoner: I will plead guilty.—Mr. Williams: One month's hard labour.

North London.

SUMMARY JUSTICE.—William Jackson, 23, porter, of Noble-street, St. Luke's, was charged with stealing handbag from a lady unknown.—The prisoner was stopped by a gentleman named Ernest, of Harrow-road, Hornsey, who saw the snatching and snatched.

The prisoner threw the bag away. The lady who owned the bag refused to prosecute.

The prisoner now denied his innocence.—Mr. Montagu Williams: Will you go to the sessions?—The prisoner: I am innocent.—Mr. Williams: That will be for a judge and jury to decide.—The Prisoner: I will plead guilty.—Mr. Williams: One month's hard labour.

At Gloucester Avenue on the 11th, Daniel Monell, labourer, 26, was indicted for the alleged murder of his wife at Berkeley.

The evidence showed that prisoner was in the habit of ill-treating his wife, and had been heard to threaten to throw her down stairs.

Death must have been instantaneous.

—Mr. Rumbelow, station master at Vauxhall, said the hydraulic lift was situated within a few yards of the entrance to the arch from South Lambeth-road and Vauxhall Cross.

It was only used by the railway officials and the milk carriers.—By the Coroner: If any person, with the exception of the railway servants or milk carriers, entered the arch, they would be swept away.

The platform was sufficient to guard the lift.—The coroner said he should adjourn the inquest, and instructed his officers to take the jury to view the spot, and the inquest was adjourned.

Catherine Coleman, 75, widow, employed as a pawn-opener at St. Matthew's Church, Bethnal Green, scratched her hand while cleaning in the church, and inflammation setting in she died in the London Hospital.—Verdict, accidental death.

Joseph Jeffrey, 34, late of Dunstable-place, Kentish Town, a butler out of a place, found his throat cut and a blood-stained razor by his side, the head being almost severed from the body. A verdict was returned of suicide while of unsound mind, produced by mental depression, was returned.

A man, unknown, aged about 50, carrying a sample box in Paddington-lane, City, was seen to vomit blood, and presently expired before he could give his name and address. He was believed, from some papers found in his possession, to be a relative of Holland, but nothing was found on him to lead to his identification. Death was proved to be due to hemorrhage of the stomach, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

The deceased appeared terrified, and in a few moments his head was dashed between the chain hydraulic wheel and the door of the lift.—Dr. Paulin, of South Lambeth-road, said the deceased had been crushed to death. He had since made a post-mortem, and found that the neck was broken.

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—Mr. Rumbelow, station master at Vauxhall,

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upon her clothing. She died almost immediately, and a post mortem showed that her body was buried as though by kicks.

Prisoner was found guilty of manslaughter,

and sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

MANSLAUGHTER OF A WIFE.

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The evidence showed that prisoner was in the habit of ill-treating his wife, and had been heard to threaten to throw her down stairs.

On the occasion that gave rise to the present charge, he returned from work at noon, and neighbours shortly afterwards

found Mrs. Monell upon the floor with blood

upon her clothing. She died almost immediately, and a post mortem showed that her body was buried as though by kicks.

Prisoner was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

AN ECCENTRIC APPLICANT.

At Chatham Police Court, a Mr. Williams, said to be of gentlemanly appearance, entered the witness-box and asked that the court might be cleared of all ladies before he explained the application which he wished to make to the magistrate.

He was told to stand down and wait until the ladies had left the court, but he made two more attempts to enter the box, and would not be pacified

until the clerk informed him that his application was of such vast importance that it was necessary that it should be kept till the last.

Other applications having been disposed of, Williams was called upon to proceed.

Having refreshed himself with a drink from a medicine phial, he again entered the witness-box with his "brief" and other papers in his hand, and began to speak.

—Your worship, I wish to make the most extraordinary application that has ever been made in the annals of the bar. A dead man cuts his throat and takes away "Jerusalem Jane."

He is four months old, his wife receives him, and he is dead. They therefore committed perjury, and have not been brought here.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There were 2,453 births and 1,332 deaths in the metropolis last week.

There were last week nine cases of suicide in London.

The metropolitan coroners last week held fifty inquests.

The Thames supplied London with 96,594,616 gallons of water daily during June.

There was one death from small-pox, that of an infant, in the metropolis last week.

Fifty deaths in the metropolis last week were attributed to accidents or negligence.

The Earl of Dudley is to be married to the only daughter of Mr. Charles Gurney.

The resignation is announced of Mr. Lane, Vice-president of the Union Pacific Railway.

During last month we Londoners consumed, on an average, 190,514,631 gallons of water daily.

The population of India is believed to have increased in ten years from 255,000,000 to 265,000,000.

Don't whistle until you're out of the wood. And even then, if you forget, to no one will get cross about it.

Germany has added 2,265,000 to her population in five years. France, 1,000,000, in the same period, and Russia, 10,000,000.

The failure of recruits to come forward for the regular forces and militia actually left 427,000 on the War Secretary's hands.

The number of Russians landed last year in New York was 49,119; of Austrians and Hungarians 53,445, and of Italians 52,243.

Alexander Campbell Mackie, an Edinburgh cabman who had been drinking heavily, ended his life by cutting his throat with a razor.

William Wilson Johnston, an Edinburgh man, was found dead at the bottom of the stair leading to his house. He was heard to fall when going up the stairs.

The returns for the year of the Primitive Methodists show an increase of 365 members, 81 ministers, 85 local preachers 22 chapels, 41 Sunday-schools, and 4,042 scholars.

Attention has been drawn in a temporary to a queer misprint, it having been announced that a doctor felt his patient's "pulse." Really, there is nothing very queer about that.

According to a Glasgow contemporary, a sandwich-man is parading Argyle-street with a board depicting two infants in a perambulator, accompanied by the words, "Immense variety, 200 to select from."

Mr. John Lobb has consented to stand in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Kitson and Mr. Francis Howe, as candidates for the Unionist party in the London School Board election of Hackney at the forthcoming election in November.

An inhabitant of St. John's Hill, Sevenoaks, named Thomas Shirley, attained the age of 100 years a few days ago. Notwithstanding his great age, he is up to a fortnight since, regularly took short walks. He is now confined to his bed. Shirley's eldest son is just 80 years of age.

"Plays without words" are in future to be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, that dignitary deputing a reader to witness a special rehearsal of each piece. It is to be hoped that the reader will not attach any importance to the language of the stage-managers between the acts.

The wheat-growing areas of the United States is decreasing in proportion to population. In the decade from 1870 to 1880 the wheat areas of the world increased 22,000,000 acres, of which the United States contributed 18,000,000. In the decade from 1880 to 1890 the wheat areas of the world increased only 8,000,000 acres, of which the United States contributed not an acre.

A gas explosion has occurred at No. 1, Buxton-road, Nightingale-lane, Balsall, the residence of Mr. F. Nowell. A small gas leak detected, a naked light was used to discover it, and an explosion followed. Nearly all the windows of the house were blown out, and the furniture greatly damaged. The fire brigade were on the spot, and succeeded in preventing the fire from spreading.

Two band boys of the North Staffordshire Regiment, aged respectively 12 and 14, were playing with a Martini-Henry rifle when one of them, named George Richardson, unrolled the weapon, which was provided with buckshot, and fired at his comrade, a lad named Black-clogh, who was struck in the temple and died instantly. Richardson has been arrested. He appears to have thought that the weapon was loaded with blank cartridge.

Notwithstanding all the efforts which have been made to stem the tide of retirement in the Volunteers, no fewer than 400 officers retired during the first eight months of the official year. Of these twenty-three were lieutenant-colonels, forty-nine majors, and 294 captains and 222 subalterns. The additions to the force were slightly below this number, the new appointments numbering 42.

Early on Wednesday morning flames were observed issuing from the shop of Mr. C. A. Watts, 4, Hester-lane, City. A alarm was at once raised; but by the time the brigade arrived the fire was making alarming progress. When, however, two hydrants were brought into operation, the flames began to show signs of extinction. In the result, the shop and house of ten rooms suffered considerably from fire, heat, smoke, and water.

The private residence of the Hon. and Very Rev. G. Herbert (owned by Lady Greville), No. 36, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, W., attracted the attention of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade between three and four o'clock the other morning. The cause of the alarm is attributed to a "candle," and the damage, officially reported, was fortunately confined to: "Front room on second floor and contents damaged by fire, heat, and water; rest of house of eighteen rooms and contents slightly by smoke."

Here is a new story of Sir John Macdonald:—Lord Dufferin delivered an address before the Greek class of the M'Gill University about which a reporter wrote, "His lordship spoke to the class in the purest ancient Greek, without mispronouncing a word or making the slightest grammatical m'stak." "Good heavens!" remarked Sir Hector Langevin to Sir John, "how did the reporter know that?" "I told him," was the answer. "But you don't know Greek," True; but I know a little about politics."

A new, or at least hitherto unnoticed, disease is attacking the oyster-beds of the Thames estuary. It consists in the shells becoming so rotten that they will not bear the pressure necessary to open them. The oysters themselves are not directly affected by it, but their round shells are completely tunnelled in all directions and covered with mud, while the flat valves which are clean remain uninjured—facts which point to the ravages being caused by some enemy working from below.

The discovery of phosphatic chalk near Taplow will be welcome news to the farmers, who have hitherto imported about 40,000 tons per annum from the north-east of France and the Belgian province of Hainault. It is not actually chalk in the strict sense of the term, but a thick brown band between the flint-bearing and the flintless chalk, consisting of various organic débris, to which it owes its valuable fertilising properties. These exuvia are found on analysis to be shells, bones, scales, and teeth of little fishes which have

been devoured by larger ones, and the like—in other words, a sort of fossil fish guano.

About 50,000 flowers were exhibited at the floral fete and rose fair held at the Crystal Palace in aid of the Gardeners' Orphan Fund.

The Queen has appointed Miss Mary Floraugh Hughes to be one of her Majesty's maids of honour in ordinary, in the room of the Hon. Marie Adeane, resigned.

The presence of several bands of brigands is reported from Epirus. An Athens correspondent says that the Turkish gendarmerie, who have received no pay for a long time past, show no particular eagerness to capture them.

A letter from Samoa states that Chief Justice Cedars has done no judicial duty for the last six months. Dissatisfied with the Supreme Court is alleged to be general, and it is reported that complaints will be sent to England.

Official notice is given that the State apartments of Windsor Castle will be open to the public on and after Monday, the 3rd of August, on every week day. Wednesdays excepted, under the usual regulations, until further orders.

Lord Hartington has written to the Liberal Unionist leaders in Belfast expressing the hope that they may set their way to support the candidature in East Belfast of Mr. James Henderson, the local Conservative Association candidate.

It is stated that a deputation from various Chambers of Commerce will shortly wait on the President of the Board of Trade with a view to securing his influence in favour of a proposed bill to remove the harsh penalties on the British printing and other allied trades by the American Copyright Act.

The Prince of Wales has approved of the appointment of the Nizam of Hyderabad to the Maharajah of Jajpore, and the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, as Vice Presidents of the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography to be held in London on the 10th of August.

Henry Quelch, at the Thames Police Court, was charged with inciting workmen out on strike to commit assaults by tendering to them at their meeting the advice that if they did attack blacklegs they were not to go to prison without leaving their marks. The prisoner was remanded, and admitted to bail.

The Lords of the Privy Council have given judgment on the petition for authority to create a new teaching university in London, with power to confer degrees under the name of the Albert University. The petition was granted, subject to various modifications, including the admission of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and other bodies to representation on the governing council.

Alderman Barakas, of Newcastle, and Fellow of the Geographical Society, has died at the age of 72 years. Deceased was one of the earliest temperature reformers of the North of England, was well known in the scientific world, having lectured and written a great deal upon astronomy, geology, and cognate subjects. He was an ardent spiritualist.

The health prospects on a large proportion of the continent are reported on in the Berlin Imperial Gazette, and the reports are rather of reassuring character after the great fall-out on which was anticipated some time since. It now appears that recent favourable weather has repaired much of the supposed damage to the crops, which are not now expected on the whole to be much, if anything, below the average.

Joseph W. Lane, dairy farmer, was charged at the Highgate Police Court with selling milk containing ten per cent. of added water. His solicitor, while defending the case on its merits, obtained the dismissal of the summons on the technical ground that the name of an assistant who had conveyed the sample to the representative of the public analyst was not mentioned in the certificate of that official.

The Orange celebrations took place on Monday at a great number of centres throughout Ulster. A huge procession left Belfast for Ballymenoch, five miles distant, where a meeting was held, presided over by Dr. Kane, Grand Master of the Orangemen of Belfast. A riot occurred at Keady, county Armagh, as an Orange procession was passing through the town. Shots were fired, and one man was wounded, but not seriously.

At Durham Assizes Margaret Robinson aged 39, was indicted for the wilful murder of her child, at Crook, in the birth of which she had been more or less of unsound mind. On April 19th, when alone in the house, she tied the child to the bed, where it was subsequently found dead.

One of the finest examples of Cistercian raine in the country, Kirkstall Abbey, is being put in a state of repair at the hands of the Leeds Corporation. Mr. Micklethwaite, F.S.A., is superintending the work. The abbey was recently presented to the corporation, at a cost of £10,000, by Colonel North. It is now open to the public.

At a meeting of the Margate Town Council it was reported that the death-rate for the borough during the quarter ending the 30th of June was 8.6 per 1,000. Excluding the deaths at the Royal Sea Bathing and Metropolitan Infirmary, the death-rate only amounted to 7.3 per 1,000 during the quarter. There had been no death through any symptomatic disease.

A fatal gun accident has occurred at Roseau, Queen's County, by which a girl named Poole, 18 years old, daughter of the local postmaster, lost her life. Her brother, who is home from school on vacation, took up a gun to inspect it, and while handling the weapon exploded the contents lodging in his sister's head. The unfortunate girl died in a few minutes.

As the club train was slowly steaming into the Paris terminus of the Great Northern of France Railway on Sunday night, it ran into the express from Lille, which was standing on the line. The effects of the collision were serious for the latter train, but no one in the former was injured. Of the passengers in the Lille express several were badly injured, and one of them died the next morning.

The jubilee of Mr. Fawcett is celebrated this week by a special "Jubilee" number with two double-page cartoons, one by Mr. Linley Sambourne and the other by Mr. Tenniel. Mr. Sambourne's cartoon represents the present chief contributors to Fawcett sitting round the dinner-table drinking the health of their old friend. The number is, naturally, full of "jubilee" allusions. It forms an interesting souvenir of an interesting occasion.

Mr. Barow Pollock, in charging the grand jury at Monmouth Assizes on Tuesday, said he was glad to note a steady decrease of habitual and professional crime, partly he hoped from education, partly certainly from better management on the part of the police, and partly from better prison discipline. Crime had steadily decreased all over England in a greater ratio than the population had increased. This enabled judges on circuit to pass much more lenient sentences than they were wont to do, and the sentences were more effective.

The members of the London Chamber of Commerce assembled to hear an address from Mr. H. Bassett, who has been a member on the shores of the Red Sea for twelve years, upon British trade prospects in the Soudan.

He advocated a federal form of government by the Soudanese, under the direction of British Chartered Company. A resolution was adopted in favour of her Majesty's Government promoting measures calculated to effect the establishment of good government, and to put an end to the existing state of anarchy in the Soudan.

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Nathan Glickman, of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

There are not necessarily four sides to a square question.

It is the ticket-of-leave man that stands upon the order of his going.

Silence is golden—especially if your front teeth do not exactly fit.

The King of Annan, who is blessed with 570 wives, might be described as an Amazzone sovereign.

Strange, isn't it, that while a coquette is still young she is most assuredly in her declining years?

A scientist who went out one day recently to discover the colour of the wind says that he found it blue.

Capital and labour might get on well together if there were not so many men trying to get capital without labour.

The Earl of Wemyss has given notice that he will call attention in the House of Lords next week to the absence of Volunteer Artillery corps from the review before the German Emperor at Wimborne.

The presentation to Princess Christian of the silver wedding gift subscribed for by her friends will be made at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, at noon.

All the subscribers will be invited to attend.

Great Britain is now one of the minor contributors to the population of the States. Last year English and Scottish emigrants formed only 8 per cent. of the immigrants landed at New York; in 1889 they contributed 12 per cent.

In eight countries of the Old World there is an addition of over 75,000,000 of the population to be sustained by food got from the ground, without anything like a corresponding increase in the cultivable area, or in its productiveness.

There were 21 deaths from measles in London last week, 10 from scarlet fever, 21 from diphtheria, 21 from whooping cough, 5 from typhus, 44 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and 3 from cholera and cholera diarrhoea.

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The gross value of the personal estate of the late Mr. Abraham Hodges Phillips, of Caversham, a Director of the London and County Banking Company, who died on the 31st May last, has been ascertained at £31,632, and the net value at £7,554.

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The Emperor has given a very large number of state presents to the people of Greece.

The Queen of Italy, to say nothing of her skill as a pianist and singer, is a graceful performer on the mandolin.

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RF. FIELD, AND RIVER.
BY LARRY LYNX.

the above should remember that the options and chances therein are given upon the best and most correct information. All on record should be made subject to honest scrutiny. The publication of this article above will not interfere with the option held by him to "Larry Lynx" going to power.

quintette of the second Newmarket meeting was a welcome relief to people who move in society after the bustle and disengagement by the visit of the German Emperor. There is an amount of "sweetness drawn out," associated with the meet held "behind the Ditch," that is always appreciated. The excitement that is of the classic spring and autumn meetings at headquarters is conspicuous by its absence, and when one attends the summer meetings the fact that racing is no longer upon us, but a trade is not so gloriously upon us. The turf on the opening day is in splendid order, and with the Trial of the curtain rose. Odds were betted on us, but this son of Springfield, who, so far as I do at Newmarket, was not in a mood on Tuesday, and Lassaigne was to end with the result that M. bought the son of Poulet and Queen for 7000s. for the purpose of leading over and over again in their St. gall.

Players had a good time of it, as, with the exception of the overthrow of Evergreen and Arm, all the favourites came romping in. In the Swaffham Walter, Flibustier was very easy, and so had Catherina, with odds betted on her, won the Maiden over the last five furlongs of the four miles.

new race, the Soltykoff Stakes, named

in the British prince, who is so popular

as a jockey club steward, brought out a field

of whom all were maidens, excepting

one, who carried a penalty at Stock-

in the Foal Stakes. Annie Laurie's

was hoisted for this event, but on

the old hand who used to bid so briskly

now have their own breeding stud. Up to

Wednesday the highest price realized was

2,500s. given by Mr. D. Cooper for a Hermit

colt, which will certainly win a race later on.

The Task. Jodel easily accounted for

the Plate, and was bought in for

the Prince of Tyre, who showed a

form when he cantered away with

Walter Handicap, whilst Yard Arm,

on his way down before Patrick

in the Dullingham Plate, a race that

the rogue Le Nord ought to have won.

Wednesday there was some capital

and once again favourites did well.

He won her match with Red Cent,

short head only, after which in the

Handicap the well-backed Buccanneer

lower his colours to Maypole. In the

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